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Special Articles

This Month

Relation of Foliage to Fruit Size and Quality
The Acquisition Plan Discussed
Pruning Fruit Trees
Improving the Soil
Canned, Dried and Citrus Fruits
Interstate Items of Interest
Personal News and Notes
The Market Grower
Poultry, Pig and Motor Notes

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Improving the Soil

Significance of Texture

SANDY SOILS, loams, clays and various other textures, have specific properties that are dependent upon the size of particles making up the mass of soil. Texture must not be confused with structure. A grain of sand or silt or a particle of clay is a textural unit. A clump of sand, silt and clay stuck together to form granules or crumbs is a structural unit.

Sandy soils have a low moisture capacity, and a small capacity to hold plant nutrients in reserve. The coarser the sand the more undesirable are its properties. Fertilizer cannot be used too liberally in a single application or burning occurs at first and later if leaching occurs most of the unused fertilizer is washed away. The addition of peat or clay to sandy soils would correct the undesirable properties but such additions are not economically feasible. Little can be done in a practical way except to select the crops that are better adapted to sandy soil.

A heavy clay is the other extreme of a soil that is made up of material that is too fine. The small particles fit so closely together that there is no room for drainage, aeration and root penetration. When the fine clay is concentrated in a layer in the subsoil it is called a clay pan. The clays are heavy because they are so difficult to cultivate and not because of their weight. They have high moisture holding capacities, but often roots cannot penetrate deeply enough to use the water. Clays hold large amounts of nutrient in reserve. Heavy fertilizer applications are absorbed by the soil with little leaching. Heavy soils are best used for grass or hay crops that require little cultivation.

Every soil contains some sand, silt, and clay besides a certain amount of organic matter or humus. In sandy soils the sand dominates the character of the soil, while in clay soils the clay dominates the character. The loams are the most desirable mixtures. Loam soils have enough of sand, silt and clay so that the good features are brought out. Such soils cultivate easily, develop good structures, have good moisture capacities and hold plant food well. Loams make choice flower and vegetable gardens where high yields and select quality of produce bring a premium.

Texture in a soil does not change. The texture directly or indirectly controls many other properties. Only through improving the structure may undesirable textural features be overcome. A heavy clay with sufficient granulation, a crumb structure, takes on the physical properties of loams. The drainage, aeration, moisture properties, and root penetration are good when the structure is sufficiently developed. But texture places limits on the possibilities for structure development and thus becomes the controlling property in soil improvement. — (R. E. Stephenson in "California Cultivator.")

"Your new wireless is ruined —how is that?"

"Last night they broadcast animal voices and Fido wanted to get at his friends."

REMOVAL OF UNPROFITABLE APPLE TREES.

U.S.A. Government is expected to Pay Growers.

The Land Use Committee of the A.A.A. Department (U.S.A.) has recommended to the Government that unprofitable varieties of Apples shall be removed from commercial orchards. This, it is argued, would more evenly balance the relationship between production and consumption.

Since the average annual production of commercial Apples in U.S.A. is approximately 100 million bushels, and the normal consumption about 75 million bushels, with exports about 12 million bushels, it is claimed that there is an overproduction of some 13 million bushels representing 20 per cent. of bearing trees.

The proposal is for the Government to pay two dollars per tree, 15 years or older, that is removed. This would be done over a three-year period. The proposal is being favorably discussed, and further action is expected at an early date.

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PERSONAL

Mr. W. J. Hutchinson, M.P., whose electorate, Indi, Victoria, includes many fruitgrowing areas, has volunteered for active service with the A.I.F.

Dr. R. J. Noble, previously N.S.W. Government Biologist, has been appointed Under-Secretary for Agriculture, to succeed Mr. G. D. Ross, who recently retired, and has since died.

Dr. Noble is widely known and respected for his ability as a scientist and for his administrative capacity.

Mr. Robert C. Wilson has been elected a director of Buzacott-Wolseley Ltd., Sydney, N.S.W.

Mr. T. R. Toovey, representative in Australia for the Port of London Authority, recently returned to Sydney from a visit to the New Zealand Centenary celebrations.

Captain J. R. Patrick, managing director of Jas. Patrick & Co. Pty. Ltd., shipowners, has been elected a U.A.P. candidate in New South Wales for the next Senate elections.

Mr. A. W. Schwennesen, manager of the Victorian Central Citrus Association was in Sydney during May, making arrangements for the marketing of Oranges in N.S.W.

With a light crop of Oranges in N.S.W. there should be room in the Sydney markets for the heavier crop of Victoria and South Australia.

VICTORIAN WEATHER MAN RETIRES AFTER 29 YEARS SERVICE.

Since 1911, Mr. W. S. Watt has been responsible for forecasting Victorian weather for the benefit of farmers and others to whom weather prospects are so important. During his regime meteorological work has been largely developed, and the staff of officers in Victoria has increased from 50 to 206, and the expenditure in the department from £12,000 to £113,000. Mr. Watt was presented with a large grandfather clock by members of the staff.

OBITUARY

Well-known Officer Passes.

The May issue of the N.S.W. Agricultural Gazette reported the retirement, through ill-health, of **Mr. G. D. Ross,** who had been Under-Secretary of the Department of Agriculture since 1926, and an officer of the department for 43 years. He was also a member of the Prickly Pear Board, Chairman of the standing committee on Agriculture, and a member of the State Committee of the C.S.I.R.

His death occurred in N.S.W. on May 7 and closed a long life of service to the primary industry in that State. Sympathy is now extended to his bereaved relatives and regret that he was not permitted to enjoy a longer retirement after his long and valuable service.

News in Brief

Farmers in Ventura County (Calif.) planted 240 miles of windbreaks in 1939.

A giant Redwood plank, 21 feet long and containing over 400 board feet free of knots or other natural defects, has been presented to the University of California College of Agriculture by the California Redwoods Association. The trees from which the plank was cut contained more than 13,400 board feet of timber.

California produced 44,000 tons of Olives in 1938 from 24,673 acres. Of this quantity, 6,900 tons were canned, 24,500 crushed for oil, 1,400 exported as fresh to nearby States, and 8,200 tons used for various food supplements. The Olive industry is worth over two million dollars to the State.

An English fruit chain stores company now encourages shoppers to trade early in the day by giving 1 lb. of freshly-boiled Beetroot (retail price 4d.) free to all customers who buy one shilling's worth of fruit or vegetables before 1 p.m.

The International Apple Association's annual convention for

NEWS IN BRIEF (Cont'd)

1940 is scheduled for August 13 to 16 at the Penn Hotel, Pittsburg, U.S.A.

Redlands, Cal., Orange growers now pack small gift boxes of Oranges with a 4-color card carrying the donor's name and the recipient's name and embellished with a statement eulogising Redlands City of beautiful drives, homes, universities and recreational facilities. It is part of a publicity campaign centred around the Orange industry.

During 1939, the N.S.W. Railway Department purchased fresh fruit to the value of £25,159, and Almonds, Raisins and Prunes in cartons valued at £751, representing 36,081 packets of fresh fruits, Apples 14,385, and Navel Oranges 15,291 cases were the largest orders.

OVERSEAS NEWS.

80,000 acres of Asparagus are being grown in California this year for the fresh and canning trade.

Arizona will produce 460,000 cases of Oranges this year, 30,000 more than last year.

8,000 acres of abandoned orchards in Yakima, U.S.A., district have been pulled out since 1936. 2,800 acres will be pulled out this year in Wenatchee district, Washington.

STILTS FOR PICKERS.

The use of stilts instead of ladders is said to be gaining popularity in some American orchards. They are made of aluminium and are telescopic to suit any height required. The feet have plates to prevent sinking into the soil and adjustable foot plates are made to give the operator comfortable standing. The weight of the sticks is about 9 lbs., and they are claimed as being much more mobile than ladders.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

Letter received from Mr. W. F. Ribe, Mt. Helena, W.A., re Apples in U.K.

CATALOGUES RECEIVED.

Swane Bros., Hughes-avenue, Ermington, N.S.W.: Catalogue of fruit trees, Roses, ornamental and flowering trees, shrubs and advanced plants. Various fruits listed include Apples, Apricots, Cherries, Currants, Figs, Gooseberries, Grape Vines, Guavas, Loganberries, Loquats, Mulberries, Nectarines, Olives, Passion Vines, Peaches, Pears, Persimmons, Plums, Prunes, Pomegranates, Quinces and Raspberries.

Young Farmers Own An Orchard

Flowers and Vegetables Also Grown.

DEMONSTRATING how the co-operative spirit is fostered in Young Farmers' Clubs, a report comes that the Tresco (Vic.) Club now owns its own orchard of one acre, upon which is growing 14 different kinds of fruit and 17 rows of vines. From the latter most of the fruit is dried, but some good samples of Ohanez table Grapes are picked. But not only orchard work is done by the Club, for they have built a kitchen and workshop in the school yard where girls are taught cookery and boys carpentering, by the Headmaster, Mr. Norman Fell, and his wife. On the orchard the boys are taught pruning, grafting, budding, and general orchard work.

Another Club in Mannella South has laid out and sown pasture plots. This will be followed by flower growing and other projects to supplement the present activity of vegetable growing.

There is evidence of rapid development in Victoria of the Young Farmers' Club movement. New clubs are in process of formation and one commendable feature is that the school work improves in interest with the interest created by outside project work along production lines.

TRAINING LADS FOR FARMS.

The Bendigo (Victoria) training farm at Flora Hill consists of 84 acres where lads are trained in many phases of farming. The boys receive 6/- per week besides keep. New plans include the training in irrigation methods as well as a thorough course in general farming. Fuller particulars can be obtained from the Department of Labor or the Boys' Employment Movement.

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Apple & Pear Acquisition

Review of its Activities

MANY of the initial problems in the handling of the Australian Apple and Pear crop under the Acquisition plan have now been overcome and the work is now proceeding under improved conditions.

This is evidenced in the discussions among growers as to plans for handling the 1941 crop.

At the Conference to be called by the Minister for Commerce on June 24, and the preceding Conference in the several States, the many problems of the industry will be discussed in detail.

Hence the need for consideration of constructive proposals.

:: :: ::

Apart from the difficulties confronting any Australian-wide marketing scheme of the magnitude of the Apple and Pear industry, there was added the problem of the bootlegger.

In N.S.W. and Victoria, this problem assumed considerable proportions: despite successful prosecutions, the trouble persists but on a diminishing scale.

The loyal growers have condemned with the utmost severity the action of those who have endeavored to evade their responsibilities and to take mean advantage of their fellows in this time of national crisis.

Approval from W.A.

There was a full attendance of fruitgrowers at the Denmark (W.A.) Town Hall on May 3, when Messrs. J. McNeil Martin, K. Sounness, T. Skinner and H. W. Soothill, gave details of the operations of the Acquisition programme.

Mr. Martin said growers would have "gone broke" but for the Acquisition plan. He urged preparation now for the handling of the 1941 crop.

Mr. Soothill told of the shipping and general problems, which had been overcome, and said that any slight grievances would be rectified.

The following resolution was carried unanimously.

"That this Association has full confidence in the Apple and Pear Acquisition scheme, and recommends it for another year."

At **Albany** a large and representative meeting unanimously carried a resolution thanking the Acquisition Committee for their good work and trusting that some similar scheme will be retained for next season.

The annual meeting of the **Mt. Barker** Fruitgrowers' Association was held on May 2, Mr. J. McN. Martin presiding, a vigorous address was delivered by Mr. H. W. Soothill. A resolution was unanimously carried supporting the Association and the Acquisition Committee: further, that the continuation of a similar scheme for the 1941 crop under war conditions is imperative.

Bridgetown: A resolution was carried unanimously supporting the Acquisition plan and expressing confidence in the personnel of the Committee.

Balingup: At a representative meeting, Messrs. Martin, Parker and Soothill told of the activities of the Acquisition programme and unanimous vote of confidence in the Acquisition Committee was carried.

Conference in N.S.W.

The Minister of Agriculture (Major Reid) has convened a conference of Apple and Pear growers to be held at Sydney on June 4. Representation is on an acreage basis. Two growers will be elected to the Australia-wide conference at Canberra on June 24.

In Victoria meetings have been held under the auspices of the Fruitgrowers' and Primary Producers' Defence League. Branches have been formed at Mt. Waverley and Templestowe.

At Somerville a resolution was carried opposing any form of Government control by a Board of the 1941 crop of Apples and Pears, other than for export. If the Federal Government insisted on a Board or pool, the meeting recommended that fruit be sold and credited to individual growers less expenses, and that it be a State pool.

At **Hastings,** Mr. Geoffrey W. Brown said the Apple and Pear industry lacked leadership: a more equitable plan than the present Acquisition plan was needed. Growers of good fruit should be encouraged. Varieties such as Jonathan, Delicious, Granny Smith and Yates should be worth 3/- on purchase, and all money above paid into a pool. The exclusion of growers from the Victoria Market was undesirable.

On the other hand there is solid support for the Acquisition plan from such districts as Harcourt, the Goulburn Valley, Gippsland, and many parts of the Mornington Peninsula. Realising the necessity for an organised Australian-wide programme, points of detail are under consideration to bring about improvements.

APPLE AND PEAR ACQUISITION.

The Editor,
"Fruit World."
Sir,

It is interesting to see in your May issue, a letter from Mr. D. C. Black, of Pakenham Upper, supporting the Apple and Pear Board, and the highly objectionable Acquisition scheme.

This appears to be a case of support by one of the few individuals who has been sufficiently fortunate to be provided with remunerative employment within the Acquisition scheme, and may therefore be presumed to have a very real interest in its continuance.

Every grower, every merchant and trader, and every shipper, as also every firm in the United Kingdom handling Australian fruit, wants to see some proper and effective organisation, but any business firm will always realise that organisation on proper and equitable lines can never be produced at will by either Government legislation, or by the waving of wands. It must and can only grow with an industry, and it must follow the industry, not precede it.

In the same issue of your Journal you publish on the opposite page, a letter from Mr. J. B. Randell, of South Australia. Surely reading both letters one must at once realise that Mr. Randell has come forward with something really constructive and helpful. Something too that could be put into practice without Boards, Acquisition schemes, or a large number of paid officers, and still more important, something that can be easily enlarged, tightened, or relaxed as occasion may warrant from season to season, and which would not start by creating hardships and opposition on all sides.

Yours faithfully,

ESMOND RUSSELL.

Melbourne, 28/5/40.

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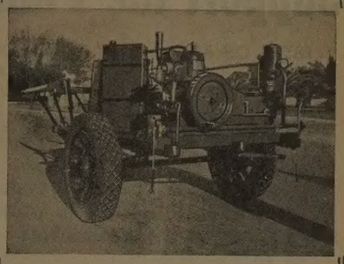

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APPLE AND PEAR ACQUISITION — (Continued)

Western Australian Growers Solidly Support the Plan as a War Measure

VIEWS OF MR. J. McN. MARTIN, PRESIDENT W.A. FRUITGROWERS' ASSOCIATION.

To the Editor,
"Fruit World."
Dear Sir,

With regard the Apple and Pear Acquisition Plan, I would set out my views as follows:—

As far as the general outline of a scheme is concerned, it is hard to envisage any alternative to the present scheme, i.e., the acquisition of the whole Apple and Pear crop of the Commonwealth by the Central Government.

Many sectional interests and districts may fancy that they are suffering a hardship owing to the introduction of the scheme, but if they only stop to envisage what their position would have been owing to the inevitable flooding of all available markets by the export surplus, I think they will acknowledge that the best for all growers was accomplished.

Take for Instance the Sydney Markets.

I know that certain districts in N.S.W. were, and still are, of the opinion that they would have been better off if nothing had been done, i.e., no Commonwealth scheme entered upon, their contention being that their fruit was, and is, so superior to anything grown elsewhere that their price parity would have been so much in their favor that they would not have suffered. Rather a selfish point of view, i.e., the bulk to suffer for the benefit of a few.

On the other hand, I have heard Tasmanian growers claim that their Apples were superior to anything grown elsewhere in the Commonwealth, and Western Australian growers are apt to make the same claim.

The fact is that, if no scheme had been evolved the N.S.W. growers would have got a tremendous shock as their markets (except the very early one) would have been flooded by first-class fruit, far better than the average that they usually see, as the pick of Tasmanian and Westralian fruit is usually exported overseas, and in this case would have been dumped on any available market both by speculators and growers.

Tasmania, being able to land fruit on the Sydney markets much under the cost of production of most N.S.W. growers, would have ousted N.S.W. fruit, and I cannot see the Western Australian growers letting transports, etc., go past their front doors empty for the Eastern States, without making a successful effort to ship fruit on them to the Eastern Mainland markets and fruit of a quality not usually seen in these markets, too.

Now, as to the working of the scheme itself. I can only speak for this State, as modifications have, I believe, been made (and rightly so) in each State to suit local conditions.

Here the central Committee have worked out requirements, both locally and for such export space as they could get from time to time, and as it had no officers or agents they set up their own central office in the capital and then offered the job, at a fixed remuneration, to the Fruit Shippers' Committee, members of whom have agents in every fruitgrowing centre, of assembling the fruit when and where directed.

On the whole, from the point of view of efficiency, this has been fairly satisfactory.

The only criticism I would suggest is that, if the scheme is carried on next year, and 90 per cent. of the commercial growers hope it will be if the war goes on, instead of the country agents being answerable to the Fruit Shippers' Committee, that they be answerable to the State Committee direct. In other words, the State Committee directly appoints its local or country agents, so that if any question of inefficiency crops up it can be dealt with quickly and effectively.

Now, as to the growers. The great majority of growers in this State have played the game, a small minority have not. In most cases even this has not been too serious, but a few have simply taken the stand that, as they got their 2/-, whether fruit was delivered or not, why worry. I hope this small minority will be dealt with and severely, too. The Minister's offer of 1/- per case extra for all fruit delivered of the specified quality brought these gentlemen up with a round turn. However, next year I should suggest 2½d. held back on all assessment payments for picking, till the end of the season, when adjustments could be made.

A Noisy Minority.

There has been in one small quarter in this State a very noisy minority against the scheme. The growers concerned have no single fact to point to why they are against it, except one, which is partly political; and is that the whole scheme should have been run by growers alone. Needless to say these growers in most cases are such that their production is negligible, or they would not make such a claim.

Opposition is also expressed by a small section of the trade, both shipping, wholesale and retail. In about every case, however, this can be ultimately traced to a selfish ground, on

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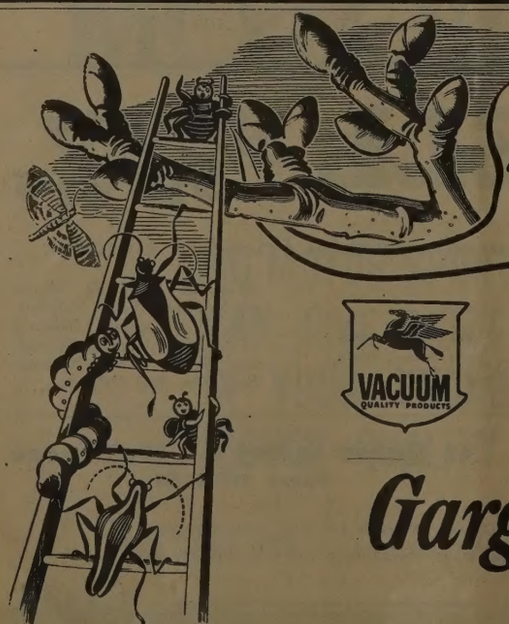

HOW the insect pests find out is their business! Cramping their style is YOURS—and ours, too. There is only one way to deal with these pestiferous enemies—STOP them before they START, and then stop 'em stone dead with Gargoyle RED—the finest winter (dormant season) spray you can buy. Kills eggs, kills insects, softens the bark and improves the health and fruitfulness of the tree. Always specify "Gargoyle" sprays—there's no better.

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which the growers' interest is entirely lost.

To sum up. We are having a great experiment in "Orderly Marketing."

The vast majority of growers in this State are against what politicians call "Orderly Marketing," but in times of stress when our, in many cases, main markets are lost, "desperate ills need desperate remedies," and our growers here see and realise this, and are more than content to take a live interest in what is going on, with the idea of using anything good later on and dropping the bad features.

Their present opinion is that so far in normal times they have been wise in keeping on with their established customs and improving them from time to time, but despite the inevitable upset of a scheme such as we now live under, things would have been 200 per cent. worse if it had not been introduced, and the Commonwealth Government gets full marks for its good intentions, if not 100 per cent. for some details arranged with the Apple and Pear Board.

Yours truly,
J. McN. MARTIN.

VARIETAL POOLS FOR FRUIT.

Mr. Thorby Insists These Will Operate.

"As a member of the Government, I can tell you that N.S.W. will get varietal pools, but this will not be announced officially until fruit is delivered and handled by the pool."

According to a report submitted to the last meeting of the Fruitgrowers' Federation of N.S.W., this statement was made by Mr. Thorby, Postmaster-General.

COOL STORES' CONFERENCE

THE 22nd Annual Conference of the Orchardists and Fruit Cool Stores' Association of Victoria was held at Mildura on May 9. Mr. F. Petty presided over a large attendance.

There was an interesting discussion regarding fans in cool storage chambers.

Messrs. F. Moore and K. Weeding were approved as delegates to the Fruit Packers' Wages Board.

Acquisition Plans.

An alternative plan to the present Acquisition system was proposed by Mr. W. P. Mair. This provides for a minimum price for Apples and Pears in the 1941 season and a system of district pools for varieties and grades. The full scheme is being circulated for consideration.

Office-bearers.

Office-bearers were elected as follow: President, Mr. W. P. Mair; Vice-Presidents, Messrs. J. H. Lang and D. Lechte; Executive, Messrs. C. Wallace and N. L. Whitten; Secretary, Mr. W. A. Stewart.

Relation of Foliage to Fruit Size and Quality in Apples and Pears

THE LEAVES of the tree play the most important part in the processes of food building, on which the growth and development of fruits depend, states the Agricultural Experiment Station, Pullman, Wash., U.S.A. The leaf is to a large extent the manufacturing establishment in which the raw materials coming from the air and the soil are changed into food materials from which the fruit and new wood tissues are built.

The average Apple contains approximately 85 per cent. by weight of water, the other 15 per cent. consisting largely of sugars, organic fibre or cellulose materials, pectin or jelly-forming materials, organic acids, and a very small percentage of mineral matter. Almost all of these materials which make up the fruit, aside from water, are manufactured in the leaves of the tree, or are built in the fruit itself from materials manufactured in the leaves.

Thus the quantity of fruit which a tree can produce in any year depends largely on the amount of foliage carried on that tree and the efficiency with which that foliage functions.

The functioning of the leaves apparently is dependent largely upon the opening of the stomata. When the stomata are open, carbon dioxide from the air passes freely into the leaf. There it comes into contact with water and soil solutions brought up from the roots. In the presence of sunlight and the green pigment, chlorophyl, this carbon dioxide and water are combined in the leaf to form simple sugars. These sugars are then built up into more complex sugars, and are either carried from the leaf to different parts of the plant or stored temporarily in the form of starch in the leaves. **This process of manufacture of sugar and other carbohydrates in the leaves is the fundamental process on which plant growth depends.**

The amount of food material which will be formed in the leaf depends upon a matter of factors. First, carbon dioxide enters freely only when the stomata are open or partly open. Closing of the stomata as a result of a lack of soil moisture prevents the entrance of carbon dioxide into the leaf and prevents food manufacture. With sufficient moisture the amount of food which will be formed depends largely on the area of healthy leaf surface. With most plants the food manufactured is limited by the amount of carbon dioxide absorbed. This varies directly with the leaf surface which the tree carries and the length of time the stomata remain open.

In fruit trees the area of leaf surface varies greatly with the growth conditions in the tree. In an Apple or Pear tree, all of the leaves are borne on growth of the immediate season. If that growth is vigorous a great number of leaves and large size leaves will be formed. If that growth is weak the number and size of leaves are correspondingly reduced.

Under drought conditions, the results are similar to those obtained with reduced leaf area, namely, small size of fruit, poor dessert quality and, in many cases, poor color. Results in these investigations have been obtained from the trees receiving a fairly adequate supply of moisture throughout the growing season. Any appreciable moisture shortage would result in reduced size and quality of the fruit.

The question is often raised: "Why does the fruit appear to be small when the trees are bearing a very light crop?"

Frequently trees produce a light crop of fruit following the production of a heavy crop the year before. Usually the light crop is the result of relatively few fruit buds being formed. Such fruit buds as are formed under these conditions are likely to be on long spurs or terminals which, because of long slender growth, are somewhat isolated from the tree as a whole. Therefore there may be a restricted movement of food materials, either into or out of such spurs or twigs.

The fact that the long spurs or twigs blossomed when most of the spurs of the tree did not, indicates in itself that these spurs are somewhat isolated from the tree as a whole. Usually they do not carry a large leaf area. Fruit borne on long spurs is thus likely to be small, regardless of the amount of crop on the tree. Usually, when the tree bears a light crop, the fruit borne on strong spurs or close to the branches will be of good size for the variety.

Relation of Moisture Supply to Leaf Function.

A certain amount of moisture must be available for the tree and be present in the leaves before their stomata open to admit carbon dioxide from the air. Under conditions of excessive dryness, therefore, leaves do not properly function and there is apparently a decrease in carbohydrate manufacture.

"VALLO" TAR DISTILLATE
(Ovicidal Wash)

Definitely kills overwintering insect eggs, thereby controlling aphids and all other destructive pests.

Use "Vallo" Ovicidal Wash, the wash with the best Ovicidal properties during the dormant period of trees.

"Vallo" Ovicidal Wash also contains mineral oils as well as tar oils, this increases the toxic effect, and also prevents the bark becoming hard, as may happen when a straight tar oil is used.

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Supplies obtainable all Merchants and Stores.

Discussion of Results in Relation to Orchard Practices.

THE RESULTS INDICATE that a fairly large amount of foliage is necessary to produce a good commercial Apple or Pear. Apparently the total amount of carbohydrates manufactured in 20 to 30 leaves is necessary to form a single fruit of good commercial size. In addition, a relatively large amount of carbohydrates is needed to furnish the food materials for the vegetative growth of the tree.

Thus it seems that from 40 to 50 leaves per fruit are needed with varieties such as Delicious, Winesap and Rome Beauty to obtain large sized fruit and at the same time to enable the trees to bear regularly.

To obtain maximum production per tree or per acre it is necessary to procure maximum leaf area per tree or per acre. As previously stated, leaf area is associated with tree growth, the greater the growth, generally the greater the foliage carried.

Pruning by removing buds which would normally develop leaves, tends to reduce leaf area. On the other hand, pruning stimulates growth in the remaining buds so that in many cases the foliage removed, by pruning, is largely replaced by the time growth is complete. Pruning, therefore, tends to increase the foliage per fruit, and thus to increase the size of the fruit, and to reduce the amount of hand thinning of fruit required. Heavy pruning, however, will generally decrease the total foliage area and the total fruit produced.

The application of fertilizers which stimulate growth in the trees increases leaf area. Probably the most important factor in maintaining vigorous growth in the orchard are:

(1) An available supply of nitrogen.

(2) An abundance of organic matter in the soil, and

(3) Sufficient moisture.

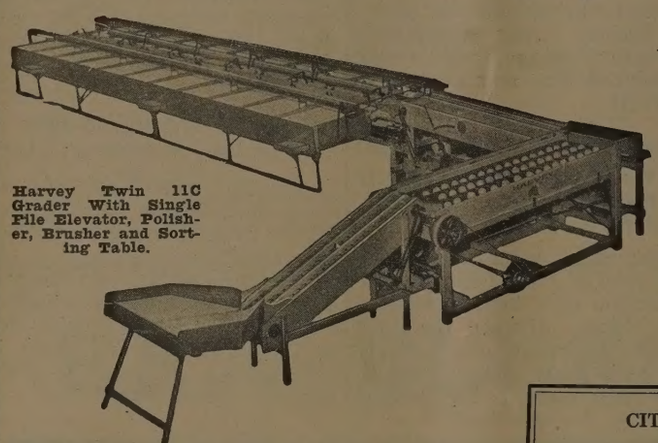
Vegetative growth can be maintained only if both organic matter and nitrogen are available in the soil in sufficient quantities.

Orchard soils are more often deficient in organic matter than in any other substance.

The cover cropping system has been of tremendous value in maintaining the organic matter content of the soil, and, in case of lucerne or other legume cover crops, in maintaining nitrogen as well.

Orchards being operated under dry conditions frequently are not making sufficient growth, because of both lack of water and lack of organic matter in the soil. It is difficult to

Citrus Graders, Citrus Polishing Machines and Packing House Equipment



Harvey Twin 11C Grader With Single Pile Elevator, Polisher, Brusher and Sorting Table.

The "HARVEY"

GRADER HAS MANY NEW AND EXCLUSIVE FEATURES, WHICH ARE CLAIMED BY USERS TO BE THE LAST WORD IN ACCURATE SIZING.

HARVEY PATENT FEATURES.

1. The setting of Grading Rollers at an oblique angle across the Grading Belt.
2. Independent Adjustable Rollers.
3. Deflectors for deflecting fruit from a full bin into the next, to avoid overcrowding where there is a predominating size in a variety.
4. Elevator delivering fruit on to lower side of belt, thus avoiding damage.
5. External friction drive of grading elements, variable speed auxiliary drive.
6. Exclusive sorting and single file elevators.

WE MANUFACTURE the leading and most complete line of cultivating implements for the Fruit Grower, Vine Grower and Citrus Grower.

CITRUS PROCESSING PLANTS	WAXING PLANTS
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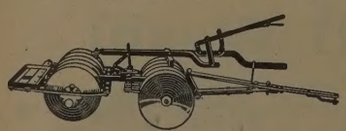
The HARVEY Citrus Washing Plants

Save Space – Can be used with Hot or Cold Water

Mills and Presses for the Extraction of Fruit Juice

"HARVEY" IMPLEMENTS *Make Good Work Easy*



"HARVEY" PATENT OFFSET TANDEM DISC CULTIVATOR: Cultivates right up to the butts of the trees or vines while the Tractor is driven right out in the middle of the row.

Proved to be an excellent machine for deeply cultivating heavy irrigation land.

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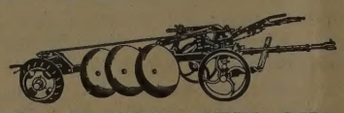
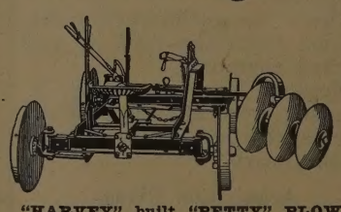
"HARVEY" 3-FURROW TRACTOR POWER LIFT HB7 MOULDBOARD ORCHARD PLOW: A one-man job. Built in sizes from two to six furrows.

THE BEETLEBACK cuts out all hand working under citrus trees, and keeps the ground level. It lifts up the branches, cultivates under them, and gently replaces them on the ground.



THE "HARVEY" LANCIA DISC PLOW is designed specially for the hardest kind of plowing. Low overhead clearance for low overhanging trees. Can be racked over for both plowing close up to and away from the trees. Equipped with the famous **"HARVEY"** Power Lift or Screw Lifts which are operated from the seat of the Tractor.



"HARVEY" built "PETTY" PLOW: Plows out strips which have not been plowed for years. Cuts through couch grass with the greatest of ease. Also plows up to the trees and in the centre. **DISC CULTIVATING GANG** can be attached in place of Disc Plow Gang.

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S.A.—Silbert, Sharp & Bishop, Rundle St., East Adelaide.
W.A.—Paterson & Co. Ltd., St. Georges Terrace, Perth.

Southern Tasmania—Southern Implement & Machinery Coy., Market Place, Hobart.
Queensland: Buzacott (Queensland) Ltd., 443 Adelaide St., Brisbane.
S.A.—Cole & Woodham, Box 12, Renmark.

RELATION OF FOLIAGE TO FRUIT SIZE AND QUALITY—(Continued).

remedy this condition unless more water can be provided. Under these conditions with reduced leaf area and reduced leaf function, a reduction in acre yield appears to be inevitable.

Estimates made in certain orchards indicate that averaged sized 20 to 25-year-old trees making a fairly good vegetative growth will carry from 60,000 to 100,000 leaves per tree. The number of Apples on such trees which should be left to obtain fruit of best commercial size and quality, and at the same time enable the trees to produce crops annually, would appear to be from 1,500 to 2,500.

Jonathan Apples in some areas are subject to physiological or internal breakdown. This trouble is most serious in large sized fruit, generally from trees carrying a light crop. In experimental storage tests, fruit grown from ringed branches carrying 25 leaves or more per fruit developed breakdown in considerable quantities, whereas, fruit grown with only 10 and 15 leaves per fruit showed no breakdown. These results substantiate tests which indicated that fruit from trees producing a light crop is more subject to breakdown than that from trees producing a heavy crop. Consequently, heavy thinning of Jonathans is likely to lead to some increase in this trouble. Jonathan trees apparently should not be thinned as heavily as the other varieties here studied, if loss from breakdown is to be avoided.

Results also indicate that heavy thinning has a definite tendency to reduce yield. Fruit grown with ten leaves per Apple was more than half as large as fruit grown with 20 leaves per Apple. Similarly, fruit grown with 20 leaves per Apple was considerably more than half as large as fruit grown with 40 leaves per Apple. This probably results from the fact that with the larger leaf areas the fruit produced was richer in carbohydrate materials; also, with larger leaf areas there is more storage of food materials in the twigs, buds, and branches, whether the branches be ringed or unringed.

On the other hand, it is recognised that a maximum yield cannot be obtained one year without generally a reduction in the crop the year following.

A crop of 2,000 Apples on a vigorously growing 20-year-old tree will generally result in 12 to 15 packed boxes, or, in the case of Rome Beauty possibly 20 packed boxes. Such a crop will give an excellent yield per acre in the orchard, and will probably represent about the maximum that can be obtained with most varieties without seriously reducing the crop for the next year. Such results can be obtained only when the leaf area of the tree is built up to the maximum by a vigorous vegetative condition and when the water supply is ample to keep these leaves functioning throughout the growing season.

An understanding of the functioning of leaves and leaf relationship is basic to an understanding of nearly all orchard operations. This statement applies particularly to fruit thinning, to pruning, to irrigation, and to fertilization and soil management. By building up a large leaf surface in the tree, the grower is developing manufacturing machinery which is essential to heavy production.

The question has often arisen as to whether it is always desirable to thin to one fruit per spur. When the crop on the tree is light, certain branches may have a relatively heavy set, and the question arises as to whether these branches should be thinned as heavily as when the entire tree carries a heavy crop. Results of investigations on these questions, indicate that there is relatively free movement along the main branches of the tree and that fruit may draw on leaves at considerable distances for its development. Consequently, when the crop as a whole is light, it would not seem to be desirable to thin to single fruits on strong growing spurs. Also, heavily loaded branches closely adjacent to others carrying few fruits do not need to be thinned quite as heavily in order to develop satisfactory size in the fruit. The relatively large quantity of foliage needed to develop a crop of fruit also emphasises the importance of keeping this foliage free from insect pests and disease. Sucking insects which draw nutrient materials from the the leaves are prevalent in some orchards, and are likely to cause marked reduction in the size and quality of the fruit if not controlled. Leaf hoppers and red spiders are serious when present in the orchard in fairly large numbers.

It is a common observation that very heavily loaded trees may produce fruit of poor color. Since high sugar content in the fruit is related to the best color development, it is apparent that prevention of overbearing by systematic thinning and production of healthy leaf area are the practical way for fruit growers to increase the color of the fruit.

Summary.

A study has been made of the relationship between foliage area and fruit development in four varieties of Apples and three of Pears.

In all varieties tested ten good leaves per fruit were not sufficient to develop fruit of satisfactory commercial size on ringed branches. Twenty to 30 leaves gave fruit of good commercial size, with larger leaf areas producing larger fruit.

The greater the leaf area per fruit, the greater the total size of fruit procured, although the increase in size of fruit was not in proportion to the increased foliage. The size of the fruit obtained with 20 leaves was always less than double that of 10 leaves, while fruit grown with 40 leaves was also less than double the size of that grown with 20 leaves; thus apparently the heavier the thinning the smaller the total tonnage of fruit produced.

Total sugar, total dry matter, and titratable acidity of fruit on ringed branches with large leaf surface were greater than those of fruit on the same tree with small leaf area.

Fruit bud formation did not occur on branches ringed with 10 leaves per Apple. In Jonathan and Rome Beauty varieties, ample fruit bud formation occurred with 20 leaves per Apple, and an abundant fruit bud formation occurred when 30 or more leaves per Apple were present on ringed branches.

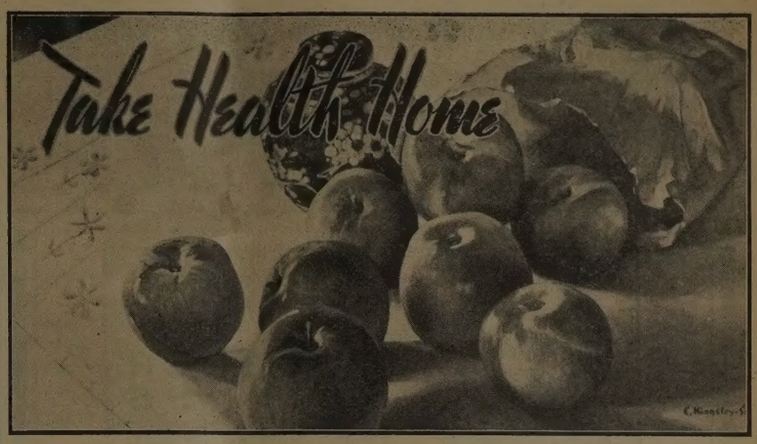
Since a relatively large amount of synthesized food material is required to develop roots, trunk, and limbs of the normal tree, it is probable that 30 to 40 leaves per fruit throughout the tree are necessary to give results similar to those obtained under conditions of these tests with 20 to 30 leaves.

Ringed and Unringed Branches.

Tests were made with fruit grown on branches from which a ring of bark had been removed. The removal of this ring of bark prevented movement of food materials formed in the leaves either into or away from the branches: the food materials formed in the leaves on these branches were confined in the branches.

Previous tests had proved that fruits may draw on leaves located at considerable distances away in case materials from nearby leaves are not available.

It is probable that not more than half of the total food material of the leaves goes to the fruit and that nearly half goes to develop wood, bark, leaves and other vegetative tissues of the trees.



Specimen of the prize-winning poster in the competition recently conducted by the Australian Apple and Pear Board.

MORE RESEARCH WORK.

C.S.I.R. New Laboratory.

The Commonwealth Government has approved of the creation of a Division of Industrial Chemistry as an extension of the service of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research. A £50,000 laboratory will be erected at Fisherman's Bend, Melbourne, and its functions will include the discovery of more uses for raw materials, new industries, replacing imported materials with Australian materials, use of by-products not now fully utilized, impetus to secondary industries, the production of Australian raw materials for the manufacture of drugs now imported, flax processing, extraction of fruit juices, fish products and oils and such other services that may be deemed of value to Australia in the matter of production and manufacture.

ORCHARD REGISTRATION IN W.A.

The Under-Secretary for Agriculture stated at the end of April that a large proportion of orchardists who were liable to pay orchard registration fees for the six months ending June 30, 1940, had not forwarded the necessary fees.

The registration fee is 2/6 per acre with a maximum of £2/10/- on all orchards of one acre or over.

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Grow . .
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Flourishing Orchards
Prosperous Orchardists
GOODMAN'S FRUIT TREES

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C. J. GOODMAN, Picnic Point Nurseries, BAIRNSDALE, V.

NEW TOMATOES—Selected for Heavy Cropping

Our improved strains of Tomato seeds are selected for increased yields and freedom from seed borne diseases.

Potentate—Rumseys' Strain—The best and largest of the cluster types. Sets well under cool conditions. Fruit 4-5 lb., good colour and quality. One of the best for staked crops. **Pkt., 6d.; ¼ oz., 2/-; 1 oz., 6/-; ¼ lb., 18/-.**

San Marzano—Thick Type—An improved type of this well-known canning variety. **Pkt., 1/-; ¼ oz., 3/-; 1 oz., 10/-; ¼ lb., 27/6.** Catalogue containing full list of market varieties, post free on request.

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Leading market growers' seedsmen for 45 years.

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We make a Big Range of Special

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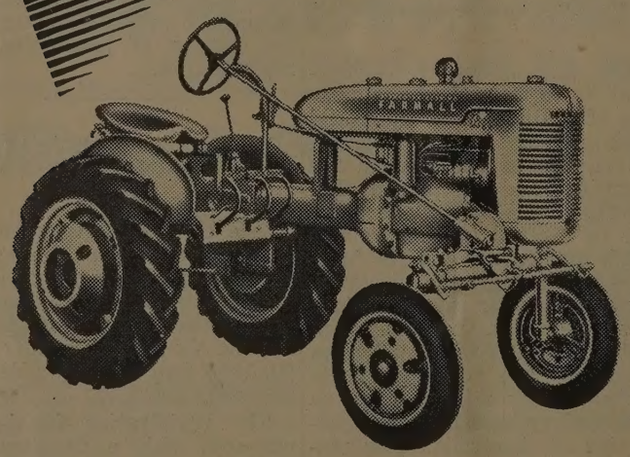

This smallest and most economical of the famous Farmalls was built for the man with a small property, or for the man who has jobs left over by the big tractor on a big property. Its quality points include four-speed transmission—2¼ to 10 miles per hour—valve-in-head 4-cylinder engine with tocco-hardened crankshaft, replaceable cylinders, high-grade ball bearings at 29 points, fifteen spring-loaded dust and oil seals, adjustable wheel tread—40 to 68 inches.

Write to us for a catalogue on this small all-round triple-power tractor, and its full line of direct-connected machines, or have a sit-down talk about it with your McCormick-Deering local agent.

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Robt. Nettlefold Pty. Ltd., Hobart, Agents for Tasmania.

McCORMICK-DEERING
FARMALL A
THE NEW TRACTOR WITH "CLEAR-VISION"

Tasmanian News and Notes

APPLE AND PEAR PICKING AND PACKING — STATE FRUIT BOARD ELECTION — FACTORIES WORKING TO CAPACITY — STURMERS POPULAR FOR EXORT AND CANNING — PLANS FOR NEXT SEASON.

(By Our Correspondent.)

PICKING and packing the Apple and Pear crop is practically completed in the north of the State at date of writing (20/5/40). The difficulty of obtaining suitable help continued right through the season. Transport became a problem owing to the coal strike and cases and paper became very scarce towards the end of the season.

The fact of Victoria receiving so much Tasmanian fruit for cool store was a great help at a critical time, both north and south.

The pack out was rather disappointing, largely due to the long dry spell and the raising of the minimum size which hit the Cox's Orange very hard. There being few factory facilities in the north, a lot of fruit was wasted.

In the south picking will not be finished till early June in some orchards. Shortage of suitable help was a serious trouble right through the season and transport to mainland States was disorganised owing to the coal strike. Wrapping paper became very scarce and there was a temporary shortage of strawboards in early May.

Weather conditions have not been ideal for picking, the last week or two being cold and overcast.

The southern districts also sent a lot of fruit to Victoria for cool store, which relieved the position a lot.

Our local cool stores are fully booked up and deliveries are going on rapidly.

All factories are working at top of their capacity, though some complain of a shortage of fruit, due to the fact that they would not receive midseason varieties after a certain date, and, being a late season the growers had not got on to the late varieties which these people wanted. Those factories which accepted what was offering got all they could handle. Of course the factory owners blame the grower for the shortage, with which the growers entirely disagree.

I see the N.S.W. growers are still agitating for alterations in the Acquisition scheme to suit their particular interests. I understand that the Orange district only grows about 122,000 cases, and a fair percentage of this is inferior. It is too late to alter the scheme for this season. It started as an all-Australian pool and should be kept so.

Neither are varietal pools fair if certain varieties are kept off the market to enhance the price of others.

The State Fruit Board election resulted in the return of Mr. J. R. Abel for the Northern Division and Messrs. T. Burnaby and R. O. Watson for the southern Division.

The growers are very interested in what the Government will decide to do about next season's crop. Something must be done, but with so many conflicting interests it will be hard to get any scheme to suit them all. Whatever is decided on the details should be published early enough in the season to let us all know what is expected of us, otherwise co-operation is impossible.

I understand there are to be two more oversea shipments totalling about 200,000, probably they will be made up largely of **Sturmers** as they usually sell well in the late market. The Sturmer crop has hardly been touched yet, so there will be a large surplus of this variety to be disposed of somehow. The canning factories prefer them to any other variety as they have the flavor.

I was pleased to notice in the May "Fruit World" that Cox's Orange Pippin had met with a favorable reception in Melbourne this season.

Another variety that should be well received for its flavor and crispness is the **Golden Delicious.** In my opinion they are much nicer than the ordinary Delicious being more juicy and not so woody.

Naturally the war position, with its uncertainties and anxieties overshadows less important things, but we must not forget that primary producers can best do their bit by producing as much as usual with their depleted staffs.

Our Agricultural Department is doing all it can to encourage the pig industry as they consider that Britain will require extra from Australia, having lost the Danish supplies. Certainly some sidelines will be needed in the fruit districts to tide them over the difficult times ahead.

APPLE PUBLICITY IN N.Z.

New Zealand is conducting a comprehensive Apple Publicity Campaign, including press and radio advertising, a series of posters, supplemented by direct mail advertising.

Good success is reported.

New South Wales News and Notes

Murrumbidgee Irrigation Areas

Wine Grape Crops Safely Harvested :: Report on Drainage Problems :: Aerial Survey of Farms :: Menace of Bindweed :: Citrus Harvesting.

(By Our Correspondent.)

THE somewhat gloomy forecast in the last issue of the position in the wine Grape growers of these areas were placed has fortunately not been realised.

Last month it was estimated by Mr. J. C. Thorne, President of the Wine Grapes Marketing Board, that at least 400 tons of wine Grapes would be left on the vines to rot, but since then the position has been changed, and the growers have had the satisfaction of seeing the remainder of their crops safely harvested, and in the winery,

This was due to negotiations by the Board with McWilliam's Winery, and after consideration of the proposition, Mr. J. McWilliam announced that their firm would purchase the balance of all Grapes remaining on the vines.

Full Government prices were paid to growers, and the position which only a few weeks ago looked so disastrous for those concerned, has ended in this firm taking all the varieties suitable for wine making which were undamaged by rain, these consisting mostly of Reisling, Pedro, Grenache and Black Shiraz varieties, about 50 per cent. of which were estimated to be fit for wine, and the balance will be utilised for making spirit.

This fine action on the part of McWilliam's Propty. will mean that approximately £2,600 will be distributed among growers who expected to sustain a loss of their fruit.

This is not the first time this firm has stood to the growers, and as they have large vineyards of their own surrounding the winery at Hanwood, their own production of wine Grapes is of no mean order. Such an action in a time of stress will not be forgotten by the settlers.

McWilliam's have spent vast sums of money in the enlargement of their wineries, both at Hanwood and Yenda, and the large building of concrete with its high distillery tower is a landmark which can be seen for many miles.

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Irrigation and Drainage.

FOLLOWING on the visit some weeks ago to the Area, by Dr. Dickson and Professor Prescott, in order to investigate the circumstances in connection with the dying out of trees on the Area, and the general matter of drainage problems, the comprehensive report prepared by these scientists has now been made available together with their recommendations for the improvement of the position.

While this report is too lengthy and comprehensive to give at length in these notes, a few of the principal points which were stressed may well be touched upon.

"Emphasis is particularly stressed on the necessity of a more complete liaison between the research workers, and Agricultural Officers, with a better understanding in consequence of the scientific recommendations of methods to combat waterlogging."

Also "Further steps to educate the horticulturists in irrigation and drainage matters is also advocated."

While undoubtedly some growers are not fully versed in the best methods of irrigation, yet there are many who, careful as they have been in the application of irrigation to their holdings, have suffered by the inability to drain the water off their farms after heavy rains, or after the two abnormal floodings of 1931 and 1939.

Faulty grading of the land before planting had undoubtedly contributed in some cases to the water lodging on portions of some holdings, and in inability of the Commission drainage channels to cope with the flood waters has also been a severe tax on many growers.

While it is admitted that both these years were abnormal in the condition which caused floodings, it was noticeable that after the first occasion when water lay for several weeks on some holdings, that the trees have weakened from that time.

It is understood that the recommendation put forward by the gentlemen previously mentioned will receive every attention from the authorities in power, and even now many drains are being deepened, in various parts of these areas, and it is hoped that in the event of further wet seasons, much of the previous floodings will be obviated.

Another of the recommendations for the permanent draining of the Mirrool area, is to run a new channel cut more or less parallel with Mirrool Creek, to serve as a drainage channel for the surplus waters.

Mirrool Creek itself is now so overgrown with "cumbungi" that although it has always been regarded as the natural drainage outlet for this Area, it is now practically useless as such, and it would be both an expensive and difficult undertaking to thoroughly clear it to such an extent that it would become a serviceable channel. The alternative of making a new channel has therefore been mooted, and will probably be fully considered in the new plan for the Area drainage.

The Premier (Mr. Mair) recently announced that the sum of £170,000 would be made available by the Government for the purpose of improving the surface drainage of the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Areas, and that the programme for drainage improvement would probably occupy three years. This announcement has been received with general satisfaction by all Growers' Associations throughout the Area, and is regarded as an acceptance of the serious position of the settlers here, many of whom have been so hard hit by losses of trees on their holdings.

The agitation from all quarters has undoubtedly had its effect, and now that the Government has moved in the right direction it is expected that matters will proceed rapidly in the way of the Area's drainage.

Much necessary work of reconstruction will have to be done on many farms, but it is expected that some will have to be replanted with trees of different varieties than those formerly planted, particularly in the case of citrus.

In the early days far too many plantings were made on farms, and the "fruit salad" farms will give place in their plantings to a more uniform method of setting out the orchard, or to start afresh under very much better conditions, and this side of the question was ably voiced by Mr. H. J. Williams, manager of the Leeton Cannery, who expressed the opinion that "although the sum of £170,000 represented a considerable contribution towards the improvement of Area conditions, the all-important thing was just how that sum would be spent."

"We were prone to expect immediate evidence of improvement, but it was well to remember that the problem had baffled our best scientists and irrigationists. Mere deepening of drains and the clearance of cumbungi and other routine work will not do. Any scheme to improve the position must embrace

PICKING ORANGES.

Mr. Thorby Says:

"Produce More Fruit."

But N.S.W. Growers Say:

"No."

At the last meeting of the Board of the Fruitgrowers' Federation of N.S.W., it was reported that announcements had been made over the air and through the press by Mr. Thorby, Postmaster-General, recommending wheat growers to reduce wheat production and to transfer their activities to the production of fruit and eggs.

Vigorous objection was taken to Mr. Thorby's remarks, and it was decided to lodge a protest on the grounds of the additional and unwise competition which would follow.

the provision of suitable new and adjacent areas, free from waterlogging, on which men will be given a fresh and generous start," he said.

The plight of some growers is desperate, and it is hoped by all that an improvement in their circumstances will soon be given them.

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Research Work.

THE GROUND SURVEY, following on the aerial survey of these Areas, is proceeding well, and up to date quite a lot of farms have been recorded. As the aerial maps come to hand they are handed out to the various officers who are conducting this work, and then follows the visit to the farms thus shown. Notices sent out to all growers by Mr. Eric S. West, M.Sc., officer in charge of the Research Station at Griffith, have met with generally a good reception, and settlers are affording visiting officers every assistance in collecting the various data it is necessary to record.

When the survey is completed (and there will be a thousand farms in all), then with the tabulation of all the information obtained much useful knowledge will be gained as to suitable soils for certain varieties of trees, the suitability of various stocks for other kinds, and with the officers of the Research Station, each one a specialist in his or her own line, the information then available should be of immense value to new settlers, besides those already here.

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ANOTHER MENACE of this area, is the **Bindweed,** which has become firmly established on a few farms. Stringent efforts are being made to cope with these plots, and settlers are keeping a sharp lookout for any appearance of this dangerous weed.

The Agricultural Instructor for the Griffith-Hillston Area (Mr. F. Autry-Hall) . was impressed with the importance of investigating the probable source of this weed, and after investigation of areas in the Lachlan Valley, he is convinced that in some cases it has been **introduced in sheep manure,** vast quantities of which come into these areas from the shearing sheds of the surrounding station properties. Mr. Autry-Hall considers that it can be regarded by fruitgrowers as Enemy No. 1, and if not checked in the initial stages of development, it will take absolute possession of an orchard or vineyard.

This plant completely depletes the soil of nitrogen, and thus trees and vines will gradually die off from this deficiency. The robbing of the nitrogen is done so completely, that economical artificial fertilization to counteract the effect of this weed is impossible, and it will also deprive the crop of moisture, besides twining itself round the stems of vines and trees, and even through the bunches of Grapes.

If any growers in other districts use manure in quantity, they are advised by Mr. Hall to allow it to remain in heaps for at least four months before spreading it on the land, as by that time the seed will either have germinated or become decomposed.

From very small beginnings this weed will spread until large patches of the white flowers cover the ground and the deep roots will penetrate to a depth of several feet in the ground, where poison sprays are almost hopeless to reach and destroy it. Various experiments are now being tried out and it is hoped that some means of eradicating this pest will ultimately be found.

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Peas and Beans which have been produced in large quantities on the Area this year, have still maintained good prices, but unfortunately a slight frost has cut them during the last few days.

Tomatoes have also proved a profitable crop, and in fact these areas have been supplying vegetables of all kinds to the Sydney market in large consignments.

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The Griffith Producers Coy. and other packing sheds are getting ready to harvest the Navel crop of Oranges, and Lemons have been in good demand, and although still green when picked, have been easily colored with ethelyne gas, being fully mature.

The fine new shed of the Selbest Packing Coy. is now nearly completed, and built of reinforced concrete, it is another fine building worthy of these progressive areas.

CURLWAA AND COOMEALLA (N.S.W.) IRRIGATION AREAS.

Heavy Crops of Navels and Valencias Expected.

The Minister of Agriculture, who is chairman of the N.S.W. Water Conservation and Irrigation Commission, states in his recent quarterly report that a large proportion of the **Apricot** crop was disposed of fresh to jam factories, and the dried fruit was of good quality. An excellent crop of **Peaches** was produced and dried out into what is regarded by packing sheds as the best sample for ten years.

The crops of **vine fruits** were heavy, but the fruit tended to dry out on the light side. The **Currant** crop was heavy and the quality fair, while the **Sultana** crop was excellent, showing promise of a record crop. An unusually high percentage was classified "5 Crown" and a substantial portion of the total crop has been graded "4 Crown."

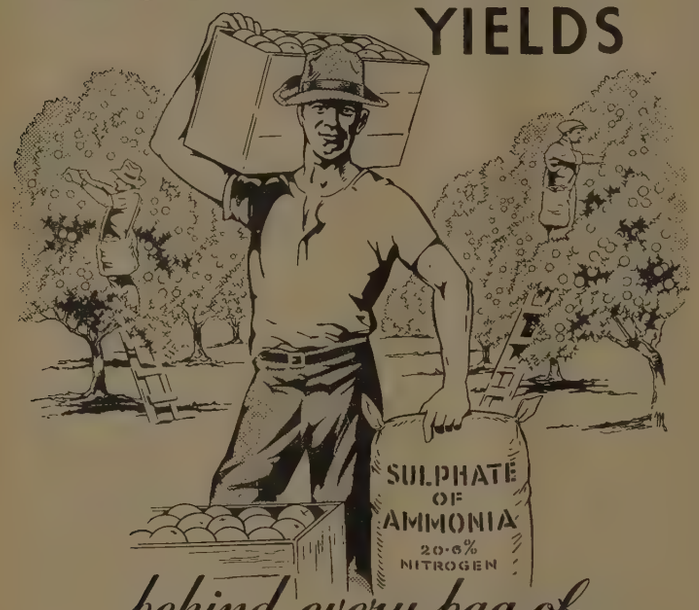
Picking of the season's

citrus crop

was completed by the end of March and was approximately 10 per cent. lighter than last year's production. The quality of the fruit was good, and prices realised were above those of recent years. Owing to importation of Grapefruit from Palestine early in the year, the prices of this fruit declined for the balance of the season, although good prices had been realised earlier in the year.

From observations made it appears likely that normal crops of Grapefruit and Mandarins may be expected during the coming season, with heavy crops of Navels and Valencias.

BIGGER & BETTER YIELDS



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SULPHATE OF AMMONIA

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in Australia have increased by 300 per cent., which suggests that those who have used it have found it highly profitable.

Make your orchard "work its hardest" this season with an application of SULPHATE OF AMMONIA either "straight" or in a balanced mixed fertiliser.

Write for Literature to NITROGEN FERTILISERS PTY LTD., 360 Collins St., Melbourne, C.1

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FRUIT BUYERS

LEMONS, ORANGES, GRAPEFRUIT, PEARS, PEACHES, APRICOTS, BERRIES, CHERRIES.

BROOKE'S LEMOS LTD.

69-79 WHITEMAN STREET, MELBOURNE SOUTH, S.C.5.

— Telephone, M 3141. —

N.S.W. APPLE FESTIVAL.

A successful Apple Festival was conducted by the Publicity Section of the N.S.W. Apple and Pear Acquisition Committee from May 15 to 25, 1940.

The proceedings were opened by a broadcast by Hon. A. U. Tonking, M.L.A., Chief Secretary.

There was a generous response on the part of Sydney business men in making available window space for Apple decorations. Some shops provided whole window displays, others placed in their windows the decorated baskets provided by the Publicity Committee.

Competitions were held for the best decorated fruit shop and the best decorated barrow in Sydney and suburbs. About £150 was distributed in prizes.

Apple cookery demonstrations were given by the Electricity Undertaking at their city and suburban depots.

Simultaneously there were distributions of Apples to schools and hospitals.

Posters and Apple propaganda material were delivered to retailers. An increase in Apple sales was reported by the trade.

The N.S.W. Publicity Committee is doing good work. The chairman is Mr. J. Holmes and the Hon. Sec. Mr. P. S. Macdermott.

FRUIT GROWERS' FEDERATION OF N.S.W.

A meeting of the Board of the Fruitgrowers' Federation of N.S.W. was held on May 2 and 3, General J. Heane presiding.

Acquisition System.

In the event of being unable to secure the exclusion of N.S.W. from the present Acquisition plans, it was decided to favor varietal pools on a State basis, with a system of appraisement. The reconstruction of the Australian Apple and Pear Board was requested, with provision for three N.S.W. representatives.

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Other matters dealt with were Hail Insurance (referred to Annual Conference); Conference of Co-operative Societies; reward for fruit fly control; citrus publicity; approval of the closing of the City Council Markets at 12.30 p.m. in the Winter: a reduction of 20 per cent. in rental charge was requested; it was decided to protest against the advice of Mr. Thorby, Postmaster-General to wheat men to transfer their activities to fruit and eggs.

Dr. R. J. Noble was congratulated on his appointment as Under Secretary for Agriculture.

G. TUCKER'S "PADDY'S MARKET," GOOD STREET, GRANVILLE, N.S.W.
One of the prize-winning shops in the recent competition in connection with Sydney's Apple Festival.

CONTROLLING BUNCHY TOP IN N.S.W.

Removal of Plants.

At a meeting of the Bunchy Top Committee of the Banana Growers' Federation of N.S.W. held at Murwillumbah recently, it was decided to adopt a scheme for three months by which all infected Banana plants shall be removed from plantations by employees of the Federation. It was stated that such a scheme would achieve effective control at less cost than is being incurred at present. The scheme will come into operation on July 1, and the position will be reviewed again in September.

FRUIT FLY MENACE.

£1,000 for Effective Control.

The Fruitgrowers' Federation of N.S.W. has decided, subject to the approval of the Minister for Agriculture, to co-operate with the Committee of Direction of Fruit Marketing in Queensland in offering a reward —probably £1,000—for an effective control measure for the fruit fly, which is so destructive of crops in both States.

BATLOW (N.S.W.) SHOW.

Fruit Awards.

In extremely wet weather, the Batlow A. and H. Society held its 27th annual show on April 15.

There was an excellent display of fruit, including pyramids of Apples (Granny Smith, Jonathan and Delicious), and pyramids of Pears.

Other Apple varieties displayed were Rome Beauty, Democrat, Stayman, Winesap and Dougherty; Pears: Winter Nelis, Packhams, Josephine, Winter Cole. Quinces and Peaches were also on view.

Among the prize winners were Messrs. H. N. Cash, C. C. Barberie, Bowman & Sons, T. W. Robson, H. G. Hutton, Vanzella Bros., J. Sedgwick, C. M. Stuart, Mrs. A. Pursell and A. Hargreaves.

SUGAR AGREEMENT RENEWAL.

Protest from Fruit Industry.

Attention was directed in the last issue of the "Fruit World" to some aspects of the renewal by the Federal Government of the Sugar Agreement, in which it was pointed out that the interests of the fruit industry were not sufficiently protected.

Mr. H. J. Williams, general manager of the Leeton Co-operative Cannery, states that leaders in the fruit industry were astounded to think that the Federal Government, without reference to large users of sugar, would suggest a renewal of the Sugar Agreement for a further five years (1941 to 1946) which may cover a period of war and post war problems when the world's markets could be very disturbed.

Apart from payments needed to develop the export trade, the necessity exists for payments to develop the Australian market.

Continuing, Mr. Williams states fruit growers and manufacturers are not unmindful of the benefits which followed from the contribution of £216,000 per annum — administered by the Fruit Industry Sugar Concession Committee.

In the original report it was set out that £110,000 was needed for safeguarding (a) the values to be paid by manufacturers for their fresh fruit, and (b) that manufacturers should be able to sell their products even against foreign competition on the British market without substantial losses.

The need is that the vital £110,000 be made available for special assistance (quite apart from domestic and export rebates) be embodied in the new agreement as the right of the fruit industry.

Without the assurance that the original fund of £110,000 per annum is in existence for its specific purpose, no fruitgrower or fruit-processor could have any security or confidence in the business.

GAS STORAGE.

Tests in New Zealand.

The Fruit is Suitable for Juice Manufacture.

The Council for Scientific and Industrial Research has been conducting some experiments in N.Z. recently with regard to Apples under gas storage and their report, now to hand, gives some data discovered.

Their investigations bear upon the utilisation of the fruit following the disability of getting such fruit exported under war conditions and lack of freight space. In Great Britain much has already been done in gas storage and the solving of the local marketing problem has been in a measure met.

In addition, the use of **unfermented Apple juice** has been extended and the New Zealand Government anticipate an increase of success with this form of processing.

NEW BERRY FRUIT

"YOUNGBERRY"

Read the Qualifications of this Wonderful New Berry.

Firstly: The hardiest berry fruit cultivated, will accommodate itself to any ordinary garden soil or aspect: can be grown successfully in any part of the State.

Secondly: The Youngberry is the first berry fruit on the market, being a couple of weeks earlier than any other berry.

Thirdly: The flavor of this wonderful berry is most delicious, quite different from any other berry fruit, in size the developed berries average about 50 to the half pound.

Fourthly: The yields of this berry are very heavy, much superior to Raspberries, Loganberries, etc. From 12,000 to 20,000 half-pound punnets to the acre are not uncommon, plants set 1,000 to one acre. In small plantings, over 200 pints have been obtained from three plants.

Extra strong plants available May to August. 1/6 ea., 15/- doz.

Special quotations for large quantities.

I expect an enormous demand for this new berry. My advice is to order early.

JAMES RAILTON,

133 Elizabeth St., Melbourne

THE CITRUS INDUSTRY

CITRUS AND BROWN ROT

An Effective Spray

Brown rot is responsible for heavy loss in certain areas which are subject to flooding, and in low-lying areas which are either flooded periodically or are kept moist by seepage. Heaviest losses are experienced in seasons in which heavy rainfall is experienced in Autumn and Winter.

The disease results in partial or complete defoliation of the trees and produces a characteristic tan-colored rot of the fruit. It may also cause a collar rot at the base of the trunk.

Brown rot can be controlled to a considerable extent by pruning away the lower hanging branches in orchards liable to its attack and by preventing any tall weed growth around and under the trees in Autumn and Winter. The lowest foliage should be a foot or more from the soil when weighted with fruit.

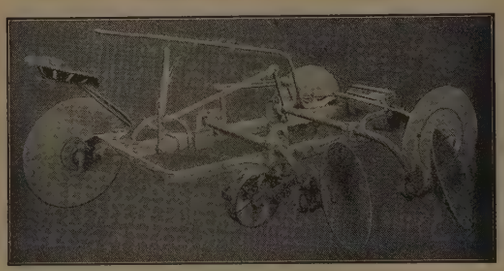
Spraying with Bordeaux-oil 4-4-80-½ in early April before, or even immediately following, the first heavy Autumn rains, provides effective protection from the disease. In orchards in which heavy twig infection has not previously developed, it may only be necessary to spray the trees to a height of four or five feet from the soil. Where infection has been severe in the previous season, or in cases where the disease has attacked the lower-hanging fruit and foliage before the spray is applied, the whole of the tree should be sprayed.

Particular attention should be paid in spraying to the thorough wetting of the under-surface of the leaves on all limbs within three or four feet of the soil. The spray nozzle should be got under the tree and the lower foliage sprayed outwards and upwards from the inside. It is recommended that the soil under the trees be sprayed to kill the fungus on the surface of the soil and that the butts of the trees be sprayed also to guard against possible collar rot produced by the brown rot organism.

In light attacks of brown rot it is desirable that the fruit borne in the upper parts of the tree, which will generally be less affected by brown rot than fruits borne on the lower limbs, be harvested and packed separately.

All fallen diseased fruit and leaves should be burned or carted away from the orchard. If left under the trees, they serve to increase the development of this fungus in the soil. The pruning away of affected twigs is also recommended. Treatment for the collar rot caused by the brown rot organism is identical with that recommended for other collar rots of citrus. — (N.S.W. Ag. Notes.)

"HILLMAN" ORCHARD STRIP PLOW



The steering arms are drop forged from the best mild steel and the main wheels are equipped with ball bearings.

Two medium horses can work this machine all day without tiring. A machine may be obtained for a trial at any time.

Double Furrow

A sturdy, strong plow equipped with reversible discs to enable the operator to plow up to, or away from the trees. Operated by a single lever and with nothing to catch branches of trees. To facilitate the movement of the plow around the orchard the discs are movable and lift clear of the ground.

Further particulars apply . . .

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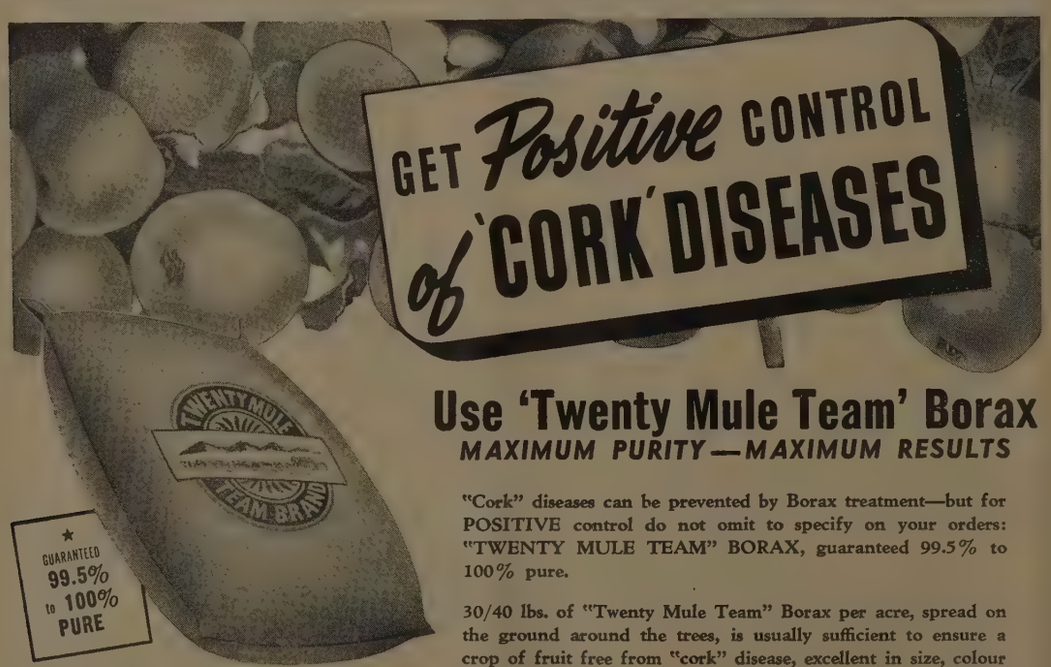

Use 'Twenty Mule Team' Borax

MAXIMUM PURITY—MAXIMUM RESULTS

"Cork" diseases can be prevented by Borax treatment—but for POSITIVE control do not omit to specify on your orders: "TWENTY MULE TEAM" BORAX, guaranteed 99.5% to 100% pure.

30/40 lbs. of "Twenty Mule Team" Borax per acre, spread on the ground around the trees, is usually sufficient to ensure a crop of fruit free from "cork" disease, excellent in size, colour and shape.

Technical Information and Quotations obtainable from agents :

Potter & Birks Pty. Ltd.,
Grosvenor House, Sydney, N.S.W.

H. M. Russell & Co. Pty. Ltd.,
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W. H. MacLennan Pty. Ltd.,
499 Lit. Collins St., Melbourne, C.1.

Swift & Co. Pty. Ltd.,
26 Clarence Street, Sydney.
Also at Melbourne, Perth, Adelaide, Brisbane, and Wellington, N.Z.

BORAX CONSOLIDATED LIMITED, Regis House, King William St., London E.C.4

PALESTINE CITRUS EXPORTS.

Shipments Reduced.

THE REPORT of the first half of the 1939-40 Palestine export season is to hand. Last year production created a record with 15,500,000 cases and estimates to date anticipate that this figure will be nearly reached. Exports were restricted owing to war conditions, but at report it was anticipated that 9,500,000 would be got away. Up till January 31, over 3,500,000 cases had been shipped (3,000,000 Oranges, 450,000 Grapefruit, and 90,000 Lemons and others).

Dependent upon peace conditions in the Mediterranean continuing, it is hoped to maintain present estimates of exports to Britain. The quality of the crop is reported to be very satisfactory, with little wastage. Shipping freights have risen, but production costs are normal except that packing material costs have advanced.

The marketing problem is being felt. Denmark market has closed to Palestine fruit. Britain is still the main outlet, though quantities have been reduced per month. Norway's quota of 40,000 cases has been filled; Sweden is willing to take fruit, but a rise in freight of over 10/- per case has limited supplies. Holland has taken only one-third of normal imports; Belgium has introduced a licensing system, as has also France, but in this case Palestine fruit had to be sold at a low price to compete with Syrian citrus which is admitted into France free of duty.

THE CITRUS INDUSTRY — (Continued)

Other European countries that have decreased receivals of Palestine fruit include Switzerland, Hungary, Yugoslavia and Rumania.

EXPORT AND MARKETING.

Citrus Conditions Discussed.

IN REPORTING what he had seen during a visit to England and U.S.A., Mr. A. G. Strickland, Chief Horticulturist, S. Aust. Department of Agriculture, stated that an American fruit expert has admitted that N.S.W. citrus were rightly held in high esteem in Britain. Citrus represents more than one-third of all U.K. imports of fresh fruit, and is supplied by Palestine, Brazil, S. Africa, Spain, U.S.A., and Australia, the latter unfortunately providing a small proportion of the total. Compared with fruit from other countries, at the Agricultural Show held in London, our fruit had a superior percentage of sugar to acid.

Last year five shipments were made, four of which opened up with only one to two per cent. wastage, but the "Devon" shipment the wastage was up to 15 per cent. Whilst satisfied with the weights, he strongly stressed the careless wrapping that he saw upon inspection. Packing, however, was good, although the selection of fruit was very irregular.

CITRUS FRUITS AS FERTILIZER.

In addition to using surplus and culled fruit as stock feed, either fresh or as meal and pulp, Californian Citrus Growers are turning it into fertilizer — and good fertilizer it makes, too. Near some of the larger packing centres, citrus shredding machines have been placed. Tests have proved the value of the shredded product when returned to the soil in the form of fertilizer. The machines shred the fruit at the rate of five tons an hour. The shredded mass is then carted to the citrus groves and dumped and spread. The whole cost of the operation is said to be no more than the cost of dumping the fruit in the ordinary way.

Here is what the chemists say about shredded citrus fruit as fertilizer:—"From the chemical determinations it is clearly evident that the Orange waste is of equal value in all respects to dairy manure."

The inventors developed the process after working on the idea that cull fruit could be turned to practical use at small expense, and at the same time eliminate the criticism directed at the dumping of apparently good fruit.—From "The Citrograph" (California).

INCREASED CITRUS PRODUCTION.

Visitor's Report on U.S.A.

Canning of Fruit Juices :: Effective Growers Co-operatives :: High Production Per Acre in U.S.A.

Upon his return from U.S.A., Mr. R. J. Benton, Fruit Instructor of the N.S.W. Department of Agriculture, states that in the last five or six years, Texas and Arizona have increased citrus production tremendously. This has caused marketing problems, but the **increased canning of fruit juices** has helped greatly in reducing surpluses. Over 100 plants are now processing fruit juices, and the demand is growing.

As a result of publicity and recommendations of the medical profession, Americans are giving fruit and vegetables a major place in the diet. The production end of the fruit industry is highly organised and increased acreage is reported. Pests and diseases are being studied carefully, and control measures are being insisted upon.

Co-operative organisations not only buy the growers' whole crop but transport the fruit to the co-operative stores and factories. He paid tribute to the efficiency seen on Sunkist packing floors.

The orchardist in America, he stated, ranked as a commercial producer and not as a struggler as is so often the case in Australia, although the average growers' acreage is no higher than in the country. Production per acre, however, is higher, owing to more scientific methods being adopted. Fruit is grown almost entirely under irrigation, although, as in California, good rainfalls are fairly regular. In Florida, a great fruit State, irrigation is seen upon only about 10 per cent. of the orchards.

PUBLICITY FOR ORANGES.

The Victorian Central Citrus Association has issued an attractive poster displaying the value of Orange juice.

Advertisements dealing with the health value of Orange juice are appearing in newspapers and radio announcements are being given.

Activity in N.S.W.

During June the Fruitgrowers' Federation of N.S.W. has arranged for press and radio advertising for Oranges and Mandarins. Window stickers, show cards and posters are being distributed to retailers.

"What a lot of style the Browns are putting on."

"Yes, and what a lot of creditors they are putting off."

Dried Fruits Notes

S.A. DRIED FRUITS BOARD

A meeting of the S.A. Dried Fruits Board was held on May 13, when a long agenda was dealt with.

The Secretary (Mr. W. N. Twiss) submitted the Board's financial statement for the year ended February 29, 1940.

The premises of A. W. Sandford and Co. Ltd., at Port Adelaide and those submitted by Crowe and Newcombe Ltd., Angaston, for the storing of dried fruits were approved in terms of regulation 40.

A letter of the N.S.W. Board was received advising that the Board was calling a conference in Sydney on May 16, 1940, to consider the matter of moist pack of dried tree fruits, and inviting a representative of the S.A. Board to be present. It was agreed, in the circumstances, the Board be not represented, but the Secretary was directed to report to the next meeting of the Board the result of the conference.

In connection with the Royal Agricultural Society's show in September, 1940, Mr. C. W. Till reported that in company with the Secretary he had interviewed the Secretary of the Society asking its co-operation with the Packers' Association for a competitive trade exhibit. It was hoped that as a result of the conference, satisfactory entries would be received.

A letter was received from the W.A. Board advising the annual contribution (i.e., levy) had been fixed at the rate of 4/3 per ton in conformity with that of the Boards of the Eastern States.

An estimate of the pack figures to May 6, 1940, was submitted and it was noted there were in some varieties substantial variations from the preliminary estimate taken in January, 1940, and the Secretary was directed to draw the attention of the other State Boards to the figures.

DRIED FRUITS EXPORTS.

24,500 Tons to Britain.

The Federal Government has announced that Great Britain will take 24,500 tons of the 1940 dried vine fruit harvest in Australia. This will represent a value of £600,000 and will comprise 8,000 tons Currants, 15,000 tons Sultanas and 1,500 tons Lexias.

In addition, it is anticipated that Canada and New Zealand will take 22,000 tons and other export markets 3,000 tons, whilst Australian consumption will approximate 17,000 tons. Thus the anticipated markets will absorb about 66,500 tons, leaving a surplus, according to anticipated yield, of something in the vicinity of 24,000 tons.

The estimated crop at present will be about 90,000 tons, provided that the weather remains favorable during the next few weeks. The quality of Sultanas being received at the packing sheds is reported to be excellent and compares more than favorably with that of any season since the dried fruit industry was established. Both quality and coloring are the result of mild Summer conditions, and the heavy yield is expected to be well up to the record of 1938, when Victoria produced 42,870 tons.

Negotiations are still being carried on with Great Britain, and it is hoped that the preliminary acceptance of 24,500 tons by Britain will be considerably increased.

N.S.W. DRIED FRUITS BOARD BI-ANNUAL MEETING.

The bi-annual meeting of the N.S.W. Dried Fruits Board, held on May 15-16, was attended by Messrs. G. J. Evatt (chairman), Hudson, O'Donnell, Cox and Steele.

The chairman stressed the necessity for economical administration in view of the anticipated deficit that is expected this year. Steps would be taken to compile a list of growers to be revised each year and to confer with other States as to a uniform method of checking such lists.

In view of the new regulations prescribing the branding of cases with the word "Quality" after each grade, i.e., Fancy, Choice, Standard, or Plain, to save packers having to provide new stencils and labels, it was decided to eliminate the necessity of adding the word "quality" if the cases were marked with the grade concerned.

Crop estimates for N.S.W. as at April 10, 1940, were reported to be 10,141 tons of dried fruits.

N.S.W. DRIED FRUIT BOARD.

Anticipates a Deficit.

The N.S.W. Dried Fruit Board has budgeted for a deficit on this year's operations, but the deficiency will be met from reserves. The levy on growers, now 4/3 per ton, is said to be likely to be raised to 5/- per ton next year as it used to be. Three applications for registration of new packing sheds were refused on the ground that the districts concerned were already adequately provided for.

Fruit Trees & Fruit Tree Stocks

Splendid Stock of Healthy Plants Available.

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This machine, perfected after years of patient engineering, is manufactured in solid gunmetal, and provides absolutely the super Sprayer. With a minimum of working parts, it is capable of long years of heavy duty.

72 Lbs. Approx. Weight.

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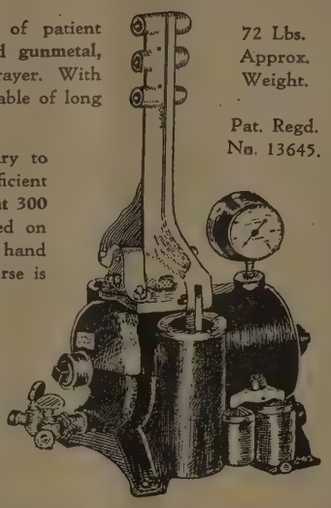


A two-horse power engine is necessary to drive this pump, and its output is sufficient to supply eight standard fine nozzles at 300 lbs. pressure. This Sprayer is modelled on exactly similar lines to our famous hand model so well known now, but of course is very much larger in every respect.

Supplied as shown with Pressure Gauge, By-pass Valve, and Double Discharge Cock.

The drive, as you can see, can be adapted to almost any gear stroke.

THE IDEAL UNIT FOR PERMANENT INSTALLATIONS.

F. G. KOERNER & CO. LTD.

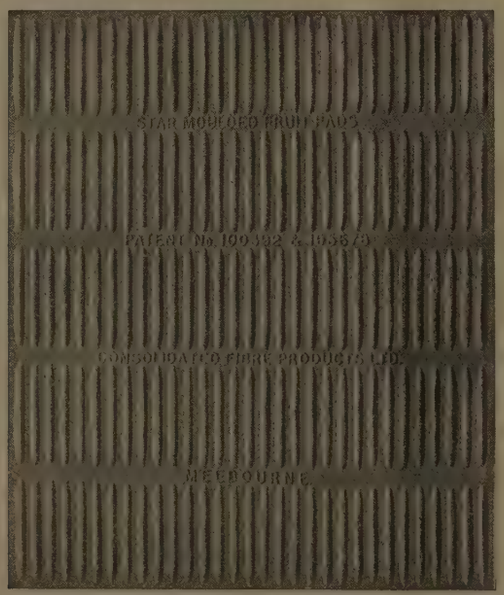
275 RUNDLE STREET, EAST - - ADELAIDE

Better Packing —— Bigger Profits

Use—

"Star" MOULDED FRUIT PADS

(Patent)



Moulded corrugated pads are the greatest advance ever made in fruit packing. They are resilient, odourless, moisture-proof. They act as a cushion and give better air circulation thus preventing damage to the fruit whilst in transit or in Cool Store.

SIZES:—12 x 6, 13½ x 6, 12 x 14, 17½ x 8, 17½ x 11.

"STAR" MOULDED FRUIT PADS are made in light grey or royal blue. These colours are fast dyes and will not taint the fruit.

PRICE LISTS UPON APPLICATION.

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CONSOLIDATED FIBRE PRODUCTS LIMITED

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LEXIA DRYING.

Soils and Dips.

ONE CANNOT EXPECT a first-class dried article unless one has a good sample of green fruit to start with, is the conviction of Mr. E. Burroughs expressed in the "S.A. Journal of Agriculture."

Soil varies a lot, even on small blocks, and one can get fruit from different blocks that appears similar, but on drying will be different in flesh and size. It takes years to find out the most suitable soil and management. For instance, Gordos require plenty of manure and water, but though they may require more than the four general irrigations and one or two extras are a benefit, it must not be overdone.

Ripeness: The green fruit must be sufficiently ripe for dipping, as size and weight may be lost if the fruit is not ripe enough.

The Dip: He considers the caustic dip is best, and gives most color and even drying. Mixed dips are slower drying and show too much contrast in color if there are any Blackberries present, which there usually are.

Strength of Dip.

This varies with the season; it is best to start with about 1 in 20, dip a bucket of fruit and add caustic if necessary, till the fruit generally is slightly cracked. Over cracking is inclined to make the fruit sticky, and go mouldy in bad weather. I do not use a stock pot for caustic dip, so if the fruit is cold in the morning I add a bit more caustic, and the filling of the dip later in the day with water, counteracts the extra caustic, with the increased heat of the day.

Temperature of Dip.

At the beginning of the season when the fruit is not so ripe and the skin not so tough, one can start with a temperature from 193 degrees to 200 degrees, and as the fruit gets riper this can be increased to 204 degrees. Towards the end of the season, when the days are getting shorter and the drying slower, the boiling dip can be used with good results.

The fruit should be spread on the rack not more than one bunch, thick, and when sufficiently dry, should be taken off the rack and not handled more than absolutely necessary before going in the sweat box.

AUSTRALIAN DRIED FRUITS

24,500 Ton Contract.

The Minister for Commerce announces that the United Kingdom will purchase 24,500 tons of the forthcoming Australian dried vine fruits crop, the respective quantities being 8,000 tons of Currants, 15,000 tons of Sultanas, and 1,500 tons of Lexias.

PHYLLOXERA RESISTANT VINES.

For many years past, the Victorian Department of Agriculture has been supplying vignerons with grafted Phylloxera resistant rootlings to combat Phylloxera in certain districts of the State.

These rootlings are available for disposal by orders, and application for the supply for delivery after June, 1941, from the State Vine Nursery, Wahgunyah, should be lodged with the Manager, Viticultural Station, Rutherglen, before June 15 next. Growers can obtain prices and conditions governing the distribution of these rootlings and cuttings by applying to that address.

A reasonable number of ungrafted resistant rootlings are available for immediate distribution.

Vignerons are reminded that supplies of **sulphur dioxide** are again available, and that vines are tested microscopically for bacteria, etc., and also chemically tested for their sulphur dioxide content, on request. Solutions for this latter test and instructions for carrying it out, are now available for delivery by post. The price is 5/-.

WATER IN PRUNES.

According to a Sydney report, the Dried Fruit Board plans to regulate the moisture percentage (added water) allowed in processed Prunes. This is considered by the growers necessary to protect the consumer who now pays heavily for the softened Prune, while the grower gets no increased return: the present allowance of water is 25 per cent. added. California is said to have been the first to move for this restriction, and their basis is suggested for Australia. Now the grower gets paid by weight as the fruit leaves the packing house, and the processor reaps the increased profit.

This question of excessive moisture was discussed at the recent annual meeting of the Board following tests made by the C.S.I.R., but further tests are to be made to obtain standards upon which to work.

CO-OP. COOL STORES.

Wantirna Shows Profit.

Last year the Wantirna (Vic.) Co-operative Cool Stores Society made a profit of £796 according to their annual balance sheet. This amount has been transferred to the sinking fund, raising that account to £12,800. The issued capital now stands at £2,560.

Barber (whispering to new helper): Here comes a man for a shave.

Helper: Let me practice on him.

Barber: All right, but be careful not to cut yourself.

• THE MARKET GROWER •

VICTORIAN TOMATO GROWERS TO ORGANISE A STATE-WIDE ASSOCIATION.

At the recent conference of Tomato growers held at Bendigo (Vic.) on May 24, the question of organising the industry was discussed and steps were taken to interest growers from the Shepparton district in a State-wide organisation. A survey was suggested of acreage cost of production, and other relative data prior to approaching Governments for a compulsory conference of growers and manufacturers to ascertain the requirements of factories and terms of purchase of production. It was further suggested that a Commonwealth-wide organisation be promoted in the interests of the tomato industry.

HEAVY POTATO YIELDS.

Carmans Win Trophy.

Phenomenal crop yields are reported from the Otway and Beech Forest districts (Vic.) in the annual Potato crop competition this year. The judge, Mr. J. T. Ramsay, said that the yield was heavier than usual with an average yield of 14 tons 4 cwt. per acre, although the early estimate had been put at from 9 to 10 tons. The L. N. Kappe silver cup was won by Mr. J. Knox with Carmans scoring 98.3 pts. (evenness 10, cleanness 10, quality 42, weight 36.3, and yield at 18 tons 15 cwt.). Mr. J. P. Congram was second with Dates 96 points, and Mr. W. H. Tann third with Dates 95.3 pts.

DATED POTATOES.

San Luis (U.S.A.) Potato growers decided recently to improve the demand for their Potatoes by dating each sack so that buyers would know that the goods are quite fresh and have not been in storage. The result has been that better sales have been reported and a demand for such brands has been created. It is planned to continue the system; 75 per cent. of the stocks so labelled were shipped out of the valley within the first two weeks after dating was started.

CONTROL OF POTATO MOTH.

In reply to a question as to the best method of control, Mr. E. Leishman, S. Aust. Horticultural Adviser, says that the damage is affected by the larvae attacking the tubers through the skin and tunnelling into the flesh. The damage may occur either before or after harvesting.

To control the pest, the best means is to keep the soil well cultivated so that a fine mulch can be moulded over the rows of plants. The grub will thus, to a large extent, be prevented from gaining access to the tubers.

EFFECTS OF VARIATION IN THE SUPPLY OF POTASH TO LETTUCE GROWN UNDER GLASS.

Woodman, R. M., in Journal of Pomol., 1939.

The paper describes two experiments carried out to discover the effects of deficiencies in the supply of potassium on the growth, yield and appearance of May King Lettuces grown in sand under glass, at the Horticultural Research Station, Cambridge. Lack of potash gave at first a slightly darker green leaf but later tended to chlorosis. With only small amounts of potash serious scorch resulted, even though the deficiency was not enough to cause serious reduction in size. Absence of potash caused rapid, severe scorch and withering of the lower leaves, so that a narrow, relatively tall plant resulted. The leaves became convex on the upper surfaces between the abnormally wide veins, giving the leaves a crinkled appearance. Large applications of potash did not appear to induce earlier maturity as do large applications of nitrogen or phosphate.—"Horticultural Abstracts."

Wife (angrily to drunken husband): I suppose you expect me to believe that you came straight home from the office.

He: Sure I did (hic). I just came home like the crow flies.

She: So I see. Stopping frequently for a little corn.

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TOMATO MITE.

Control Measures.

Serious damage has been suffered in N.S.W. by Tomato mite, and the most effective control, states Mr. W. L. Morgan in the Department's bulletin, is to dust the plants with a mixture of equal parts of fine sulphur and hydrated lime. But if the plants are heavily infested, sulphur dusting is apt to cause some leaf scald, especially in very hot weather. Under such conditions it would be better to use lime-sulphur spray at the rate of one gallon to 40 gallons of water.

It is often necessary to treat late crops for mite, and in this case the lime-sulphur spray may conflict with Bordeaux spraying. An alternative is the use of colloidal sulphur with the Bordeaux at the rate of 2 lb. to 40 gallons of the Bordeaux spray, or wet table sulphur at the rate of 1 lb. to 12 gallons.

The wettable sulphur does not stay in suspension very well, and growers who are forced to use knapsack spray outfits should rather use the colloidal form. Where mechanical agitation of the spray material is possible the wettable sulphur is satisfactory.

Victorian Crop Report

ORCHARDISTS are now attending to the work of cultivation, drainage, sowing cover crops and orchard hygiene, states the Victorian Department of Agriculture in its report for May. Generally, orchard work is much more advanced than usual because the Apple and Pear Board has taken over the marketing of the crop. In some Apple districts, orchardists have not sown, feeling that the future is too uncertain. Only light yields of Almonds and Walnuts were secured.

The rapid spread of **Red Scale of Citrus** in the Mildura area during the past 8 or 10 weeks caused some concern among growers. Conditions during May were favorable for the survival of young scale. Fumigation is still being done in parts of the district. Some heavy crops of Lemons, Grapefruit, and Mandarins are to be seen at Mildura.

Vineyards.

In the irrigated areas various works are going on, such as internal drainage, sowing and irrigating crops for green manure, delving furrows in alterante rows to receive the prunings, and arrangements of classes for young pruners.

The seasonal Grape crop in the non-irrigated areas of Australia proved disappointing, and in the Victorian districts the average yield amounted to little more than one half the quantity expected under normal circumstances. There is a definite shortage of the Victorian types of wine and in the Great Western area the matter is being rectified by fresh planting. In the North Central areas, red varieties are being converted to white sorts, and gaps in existing plantations are being filled with nursery grafted young vines.

"I adore bridge! I could play it in my sleep."

"Apparently you do."

He: "Where are all the nice girls this evening?"

She: "Out with the handsome men."

Cherry Culture

Varieties and Pollination

SWEET CHERRIES thrive in light, deep, well-drained loamy soils, states Mr. P. H. Thomas, Chief Horticulturist, Department of Agriculture, Tasmania, in the Department's Journal.

Culture.

The unsatisfactory cropping of many varieties is often due to ineffective pollination. Many of these are not only self-sterile, but also interpollinate with certain kinds much better than others.

Varieties grown in Tasmania which are generally self-sterile include Early Rivers, Knight's Early Black, Early Purple Gean, Bedford Prolific, Black Tartarian, Black Eagle, Bigarreau Napoleon and Florence.

May Duke and Royal Duke are partially self-sterile, and Morello, Kentish Red and Late Duke are entirely so.

Prospective planters should satisfy themselves that the varieties they choose for planting together flower at approximately the same time. Very little information is at present available regarding the compatibility of those commercially favored in Tasmania, and for this reason it is inadvisable to confine plantings to one or two varieties.

In existing orchards pollination has been much improved by grafting the limbs of trees which crop unsatisfactorily with selected kinds which have been tested and found satisfactory the previous season.

This may be carried out by introducing branches of other varieties during the flowering period and holding them in suitable vessels in water so as to enable the pollen to be distributed throughout the trees by means of insects.

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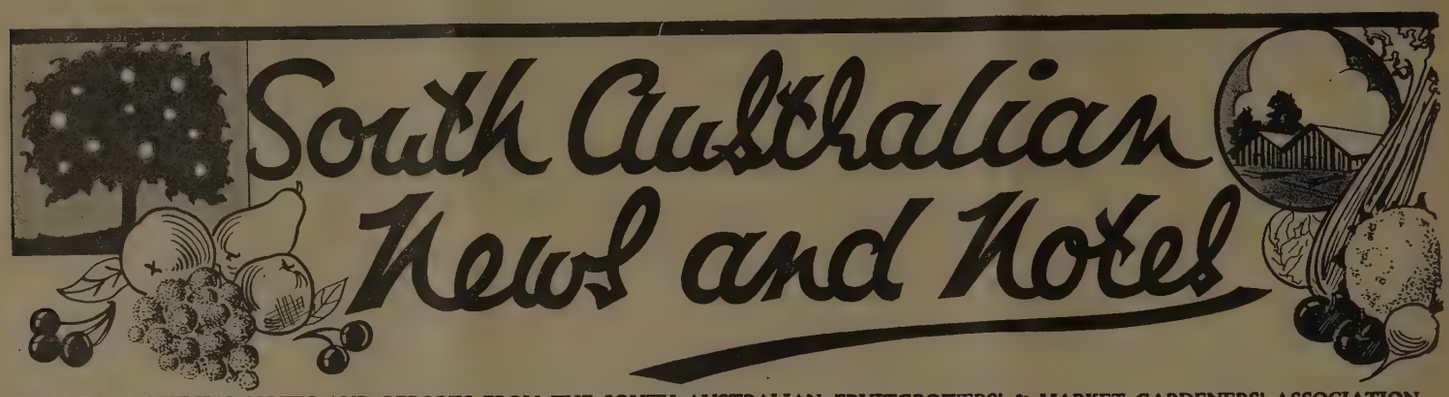

INCLUDING OFFICIAL NOTES AND REPORTS FROM THE SOUTH AUSTRALIAN FRUITGROWERS' & MARKET GARDENERS' ASSOCIATION.

S.A. Fruitgrowers' and Market Gardeners' Association Incorp.

Meeting of Executive Committee

MINUTES of Executive Committee meeting held in the Board Room, 288a Rundle-street, Adelaide, on May 31, 1940, at 10.30 a.m.

Mr. H. N. Wicks (President) occupied the chair, and those present were as follows:—Messrs. H. B. Robson, F. P. Short, O. Esselbach, G. R. Schultz, L. B. Pfeiffer, C. J. Pitt, N. T. Hobbs, C. T. Pitt, H. W. Parsons, C. Jennings, R. A. Cramond, C. H. Ragless, W. H. Ind, W. J. Bishop, and L. J. Wicks.

Minutes: The minutes of the last meeting, held April 26, a copy of which had been forwarded to members, taken as read and confirmed.

Apologies: Apologies were received from Messrs. F. Hughes, J. Turner, J. B. Randell, C. A. Robin, C. Wishart, C. Stanford and M. Packer.

W. Angliss & Co.: Letter from W. Angliss & Co. re lease of offices. The Secretary reported that he had written agreeing to a further lease of 2 years as from July 1, 1940, under the same conditions as last.

County Board: The Chairman reported that the Committee appointed at last Executive meeting had met the Secretary of the Metropolitan County Board and the Medical Officer of Health, and discussed with them the need for an amendment of the present Regulation prohibiting the use of manure bags that had contained fertilisers of in-organic nature—for the carriage of vegetables, etc. The medical officer was in accord with the request, and stated he would recommend to the Board that the Regulation be amended to permit of the use of such bags provided they were washed before use.

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Correspondence: A letter dated May 18 received from the County Board stating that in future action would be taken against growers only who used bags which previously had contained manures of organic nature, but Inspectors would be instructed to see that bags used were "clean."

Mr. O. Esselbach moved: "That the letter from the County Board be given prominence in the "Fruit World." Seconded Mr. G. Schultz. Carried.

Kindergarten Union of S.A.: Letter dated May 23 received seeking donations of fruit for the charitable work of the Union.

Mr. R. Cramond moved: "That the letter be handed to the State Apple Committee, and also made public to growers through the "Fruit World." Seconded Mr. W. J. Bishop. Carried.

The meeting was unanimous in its decision to assist the Union in every way possible, and Mr. N. T. Hobbs moved: "That the Kindergarten Union be advised that the Association will endeavour to obtain supplies of fruit weekly, using the Association offices as a depot." Seconded Mr. G. T. Pitt. Carried.

Fruitgrowers Defence League of Australia: Letter received from the President of the League stating that owing to the limited time before the Canberra Conference on June 24 to confer with the Minister of Commerce concerning Apple and Pear acquisition it would be impossible for League delegates to visit Adelaide before that date. He stated, however, that perhaps a conference of State delegates could be held in Sydney prior to Canberra Conference.

The Chairman reported that a general meeting of Apple and Pear growers held May 29 decided in favor of some form of control over the 1941 season crop by the Commonwealth Government. In view of this, the conference of delegates as suggested by the Defence League would be in opposition to the S.A. growers' decision.

Mr. N. T. Hobbs moved: "That we advise the Fruitgrowers' and Primary Producers' Defence League of Australia, the position in South Australia, and in view of this, the Association at this juncture is not prepared to go any further with the suggested conference." Seconded Mr. W. J. Bishop. Carried.

Mr. O. Esselbach moved: "That this Association will do all in its power to assist the Commonwealth Government in the present crisis." Seconded Mr. G. Pitt. Carried.

Citrus Marketing Regulations: A circular issued by the Chief Horticulturist of S.A., Mr. Strickland, was read to the meeting. The circular set out the requirements of the Regulations concerning the marketing of citrus fruits. Received.

Sugar Bounty: An unofficial letter was read concerning the extension of the Sugar Agreement for a further term of 5 years.

Mr. L. J. Wicks moved: "That the correspondence be received." Seconded Mr. R. Cramond. Carried.

Hail Damage: Mr. W. J. Bishop reported that following instructions from the last Executive meeting, he, in company with Mr. J. Vickers, had interviewed the Minister of Agriculture to ascertain if some form of relief could be obtained for growers affected by the recent hail storm. The Minister, although sympathetic, stated that there was no machinery whereby the Government could assist. He promised to have an assessment of the damage made by Officers of the Department of Agriculture. However, if no monetary assistance could be afforded, practical assistance by the Department in experimental work to build up young affected trees would probably be forthcoming.

Sectional and Branch Reports.

Society: Mr. W. J. Bishop, Chairman of Fruitgrowers' and Market Gardeners' Society Ltd., reported that April constituted an all time record trading month.

Marion Branch: Mr. H. W. Parsons, delegate from the Marion Branch, reported that at the last Branch meeting Mr. R. Quinn, of the Department of Agriculture, had delivered an address on "Fertilisation of Almonds."

Onkaparinga Potato Branch: Mr. L. B. Pfeiffer, Chairman of the Onkaparinga Potato Branch, reported that the Branch, in its short time of existence, can now claim a membership of 35 growers. The Committee will meet within 14 days, when a further membership increase is anticipated. The Committee are proceeding with a scheme for the certification of seed.

Celery Section: Mr. N. T. Hobbs apologised for the absence of the Chairman (Mr. M. Packer), and reported that the Celery season was proceeding satisfactorily with supplies increasing.

Citrus Section: Mr. O. Esselbach reported that the Orange crop was coloring up well.

Potato Section: Mr. C. J. Pitt reported that he had attended the annual meeting of the Federal Potato Advisory Committee in Melbourne during May. Uniform grading Regulations for the Commonwealth was given attention, with the result that there will now be 7 grades. The N.S.W. Potato Growers Licensing Bill had now passed all stages, and it was probable that similar legislation would become general in all States. Certification of seed also came under discussion. From reports received, it appeared that generally the Commonwealth Potato crop would be 80,000 tons below average annual consumption.

Finance: The Secretary submitted financial statement to date, together with accounts for payment. Resolved statement be received and accounts paid.

In the first three months of 1940, Britain's imports increased by £89,817,605 over the same period last year, whilst her exports increased by £799,730. This disproves the German statement that Britain is decadent.

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Apple and Pear Growers of S.A. Fruitgrowers' and Market Gardeners' Association Meet to Discuss Acquisition

Growers Favor Government Control Over the 1941 Crop

A MEETING of Apple and Pear growers was held on May 29, 1940, at 11 a.m. on the request of the S.A. Minister of Agriculture. The Minister stated that he was convening a Conference of the industry on May 31, and requested the Association to appoint two delegates to attend the Conference, and express the Association's views on the following points:—

1. Whether there should be any acquisition by the Commonwealth Government of the Apple and Pear crop of 1941: if so, what form should it take?

2. If so, to appoint, say, two growers and one merchant to accompany the Minister of Agriculture to the General Conference to be held, probably in Canberra, on June 24, 1940, to further discuss the following:—

a. Should any State, or district, have its market protected from competition for part of the season?
b. If the entire crop is acquired, should producers in all States share equally in the proceeds, or should there be a separate pool for each State?
c. If it is considered that there should be a separate pool for each State, would each State be prepared to act as the agent of the Commonwealth in the care and marketing of the fruit acquired in that State?
d. What procedure should be followed in marketing fruit overseas? Should bulk contracts be arranged through a small Marketing Committee, as was done this year, or should all exporters be permitted to quote for fruit? If the latter, should there be a minimum quantity which any exporter could purchase? Which type of procedure would be in the best interests of the growers?
e. What place should merchants fill in the domestic marketing arrangements? What are considered to be the defects in this year's arrangements regarding the appointment of agents from the viewpoint of—
   (a) the grower
   (b) the merchants
   (c) the retailer,

The meeting expressed itself in favor of Government control, particularly so in view of the present grave crisis the Empire was passing through. The meeting ultimately passed the following resolution:—

"That this meeting of Apple and Pear growers is definitely of the opinion that there should be some form of control over the Apple and Pear crop by the Commonwealth Government during the 1941 season."

A scheme as to the form the control should take was discussed, and approved by the meeting.

It was also considered that all States of the Commonwealth should share alike in a common pool, and a resolution in favor of a Commonwealth Pool was carried.

In the event of any export facilities being available it was agreed that bulk contracts be arranged through a small Marketing Committee as was done during 1940 season.

Messrs. W. J. Bishop and J. Turner were appointed as delegates of the Association to attend the Conference arranged by the Minister of Agriculture.

KINDERGARTEN UNION OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Donations of Fruit Required.

The Executive Committee of the S.A. Fruitgrowers' and Market Gardeners' Association received an appeal from the above Union for gift cases of fruit, etc., for the children of its free Kindergarten.

The Union has 11 free Kindergartens and Nursery Schools which are attended by more than 500 children between the ages of 2 and 6 years. The children are drawn from the poorer parts of Adelaide and suburbs, and special health measures adopted at the various schools have had definite results as statistics show.

The Association has decided to assist the Union in any way possible, and appeals to its members for donations of fruit, etc.

The Association offices will be made available as a depot for such donations, and the Union will take delivery of any fruit so delivered on each Friday.

THE MARKETING OF "OPEN PACKAGE" GRADE CITRUS FRUITS.

THE Chief Horticulturist for S.A. (Mr. A. G. Strickland) has issued the following statement in respect to the marketing of "Open Package" Grade citrus fruits:—

"Attention is directed herein to the effect of a recent ruling under the Fruit and Vegetable Grading Regulations.

"Under such regulations, it is permissible to sell citrus fruits in 'open packages' (cases without lids) without marking on such cases particulars as to the name of the grower or owner of the fruit, or of the variety, and count of the fruit.

"It is necessary, however, that citrus fruits marketed in open packages be sized and graded into one or other of the three grades 'Special,' 'Standard,' or 'Plain,' and that the packages be marked legibly with the word 'Special,' 'Standard,' or 'Plain' according to the grade of the contents.

"Specifications of the three grades are as follows:—

"Citrus fruits described as 'Special' shall consist of sound, clean citrus fruits of one size and one variety, and of normal shape and appearance common to the variety, and of reasonably even color. Markings on the skin other than those occasioned by disease are permissible on any individual fruit, provided that such markings do not exceed 2½ per centum of the total superficial area of any individual fruit. Oranges shall be mature and shall not be dry.

"Citrus fruits described as 'Standard' shall consist of sound, clean citrus fruits of one size and one variety, of normal shape and appearance common to the variety, and of reasonably even color. Markings on the skin such as those occasioned by scars, scratches of the skin, excessive navel segments, cavities, punctures and blemishes due to any fungus or insect pest, are permissible on any individual fruit, provided that such markings do not exceed 5 per centum of the total surface area of the individual fruit. Oranges shall be mature and shall not be dry.

"Citrus fruits described as 'Plain' shall consist of sound, clean citrus fruits, of one size and one variety, and of reasonably even color and appearance common to the variety. Markings on the skin such as those occasioned by scars, scratches of the skin, excessive navel segments, cavities, punctures and blemishes due to any fungus or insect pest, are permissible on any individual fruit, provided that such markings do not exceed 20 per centum of the total surface area of any individual fruit. Oranges shall be mature and shall not be dry.

"During the forthcoming citrus marketing season, compliance with the requirements outlined above will be insisted upon."

USE OF MANURE BAGS FOR CARRIAGE OF VEGETABLES, ETC.

The Secretary,
S.A. Fruitgrowers' and Market Gardeners' Association,
Adelaide.

Dear Sir,

Following the discussion between members of your organisation and the Medical Officer of Health and Secretary of this Board regarding the above matter I now desire to inform you that it has been decided to instruct the Inspectors to report only instances where vegetables, etc., are carried in bags that had previously contained organic manures.

Inspectors have been instructed, however, to give attention to all bags being used to see that such bags are "clean" within the meaning of Clause 14 of Regulation 10 of the Regulations under the Food and Drugs Act.

I also have to state that it is intended to apply to have the Regulation amended so as to permit of the use of bags that had previously contained "artificial fertilisers."

Your assistance in obtaining the compliance of your members with the Board's decision will be appreciated.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) SETH. H. GALE,
Secretary, Metropolitan County Board (18/5/40).

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AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF REFRIGERATION.

A special meeting of the above Institute will be held in the Kelvin Hall, Collins-place, Melbourne, on Wednesday, June 12, 1940, at 8 p.m., when papers on the subject of gas storage of Apples and Pears will be contributed by Mr. Willis J. Williams, Sydney (to be read by Mr. W. E. Dobney), Mr. G. Tindale, B.Sc., and Dr. F. E. Huelin. These papers have been arranged by the Council of the Institute in response to requests by members for information on the subject of gas storage.

An open invitation to this meeting is extended to fruitgrowers and all others interested in this subject.

TASMANIAN APPLES IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

The Chairman of the South Australian Apple and Pear Acquisition Committee (Mr. G. A. W. Pope) stated at the beginning of June that the Committee had just received a consignment of 25,000 cases of Tasmanian Apples to augment the supplies for the local markets.

Further importations will be necessary, he added. There is a very definite shortage of home-grown fruit, as the crop was first severely damaged by heat waves experienced in March and the further loss through hail storms in April.

Among the importations are large quantities of Tasmanian Sturmers, which is one of the largest crops grown there, the total annual production being approximately 1½ million cases. Although this variety is unknown to the majority of consumers in this State, it is strongly recommended. It has a sub-acid flavor and it is crisp with a russet appearance and is suitable both for table and culinary purposes. The Committee are marketing these Apples at 6/6 a case wholesale.

CODLING MOTH CONTROL.

How They do it in U.S.A.

Fighting fruit pests is becoming more and more a co-operative effort on the Pacific Coast orchard districts. A recent report states that in the Washington area, 2,800 acres of abandoned orchards will be uprooted and destroyed to prevent a spread of tree pests. Over £8,000 has been appropriated by the Federal Government in the coming year, rounding out a planned programme that has been carried on since 1936.

SENECA SWEET CHERRY.

Tests made in several States in U.S.A. prove that this variety is hardy, though the fruit is too soft for distant transport. It is a very black sweet fruit, developed at the Geneva Experimental Station.

Summarising the reports on the Seneca in the current issue of "Farm Research," the station's quarterly magazine, Prof. Richard Wellington, head of the pomology division, states that on the average the trees begin to bear fruit at four to five years of age and are in full bearing when eight years old. The trees yield annually, about 44 per cent. of the growers who have the variety describing it as a heavy yielder. More than half of the growers reported the buds as hardy and 36 per cent. as medium hardy.

Cables—Monro, London. Codes—A.B.C. 5th Edition and Bentley's

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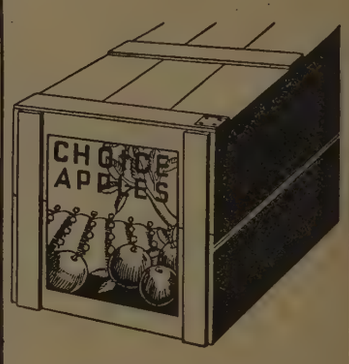
The Betta Pack Fruit Storage Co. Pty. Ltd.

This Company has installed at 436 Queen Street, Melbourne (right opposite the Wholesale Fruit Market), **the last word in cool storage, ripening, coloring and packing facilities.**

They are now ready to contact with interested growers and agents and suggest that if fruit is sent direct to them, held in cool storage until the market is good or improves, and then packed immediately before the agent sells the fruit, gluts will be avoided. Better prices will be maintained through better packing and selling in a better market.

Reasonable prices are being charged for all services rendered.

We suggest getting in touch with this Company at the first opportunity. Already thousands of cases of fruit have been successfully handled to the advantage of the grower.



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Goulburn Valley News and Notes

GOOD SOAKING RAINS NEEDED :: SHORTAGE OF EXPERIENCED LABOR :: MORE PLANTINGS OF CANNING PEACHES :: EXPORT FIGURES :: GRANT TO RODNEY DISTRICT :: DRAINAGE OF FLOOD WATERS :: WAR EFFORT IN THE GOULBURN VALLEY.

(By Our Correspondent.)

THE Goulburn Valley district is experiencing a long dry spell with sunny days and cold frosty nights — a good soaking rain is urgently needed for both pastoral and seeding facilities. At present there is not sufficient moisture in the soil to germinate the crops already sown.

Pruning operations

have become general, and experienced labor is every day becoming scarcer, as most of our finest and ablest young men are loyally answering the call of Empire in its greatest hour of peril, and recruiting is brisk throughout the Valley. The latest move is to have the Shepparton Show Grounds turned into a military camp. This would mean that there would be no show in the Spring.

Bud developments

in all orchards are very satisfactory Peaches, and Pears have a particularly good show of fruit wood: but nevertheless it is evident that the **canning Peaches** in the Valley are on the decline, many of them have seen their best days; and it is obvious to keen observers that fresh plantings will have to take place to keep up normal supplies to our canneries in the years that lie ahead.

It is with this vision in front of us that many leading fruit growers are buying land at Cobram for Peach culture, as this area contains particularly suitable land for this purpose: also there is a plentiful supply of water from the Murray Valley irrigation scheme. It is expected that moderate planting of Peaches in this area will take place during the Winter months.

The canneries are having an anxious and difficult time owing to shipping facilities and the great dislocation of trade overseas. Yet, in spite of these difficulties, large quantities are being shipped, and last week the Ardmona cannery was fortunate in being able to ship 45,000 cases, which is well above the average output for one week.

250,000 Cases Canned Fruits Exported in Four Months.

OVER 250,000 cases of canned fruits have been exported to various countries, but mainly to the United Kingdom from January to April of this year. More Pears were shipped than other fruits: 101,271 cases leaving Australia.

Details of exports (cases) :—

U. Kingdom: Apricots 42,197; Peaches 69,510, Pears 94,810. Total 224,467.

N.Z.: Apricots 1,090, Peaches 260, Pears 87. Total 1,490.

Canada: Apricots 3,362, Peaches 17,152, Pears 1,492. Total 22,492.

East: Apricots 3,739, Peaches 4,067, Pears 4,413. Total 13,207.

Miscellaneous: Apricots 156, Peaches 527, Pears 469. Total 1,190.

Grand Total: Apricots 50,514, Peaches 91,516, Pears 101,271.

All varieties of jams are selling well, and at the present rate all stocks will be cleared before next season's crop arrives, when it is expected there will be a keen demand for Apricots, Plums and Quinces.

:: :: ::

Irrigation Grant: £2,000 for Rodney District.

TO Rodney Irrigation District goes the honor of having been granted the largest allocation of the recent grant of £25,000 to the district in the distribution of the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission.

In reply to the local representations regarding the allocation of the grant, the following has been received from the Secretary of the Commission (Mr. S. Duggan). In reference to the allocation of portion of the grant of £25,000 for repairs and recondition of structures.

The Rodney irrigation district has been allotted £2,000, the largest amount allotted to any irrigation district.

Drainage of Flood Waters Into Underground Stream. Proposal Submitted to Rodney Shire Council.

Drainage of water which periodically floods the Kyabram district, by the sinking of bores into an underground stream, which would carry off the surplus water, is a proposal which has been submitted to the Rodney Shire Council.

Kyabram Riding members are to watch developments in the Shepparton area before reporting to the Council.

Mr. F. Jones, of Reservoir, told the Council he was prepared to undertake boring operations under the following conditions— unless a six-inch bore would give 24,000 galls. of good water per day: no payment would be required by him. He estimated the depth at which the underground stream would be reached was 70 ft. to 120 ft. He would require £500 for the scheme, from which the cost of a six-inch bore and casing might be deducted. While he undertook to put down a bore of that size at £1 per foot, the site for the bore is very convenient for use of all existing drainage.

A test bore he said would cost 5/- per foot to put down.

:: :: ::

Great activity is being shown in the Goulburn Valley in the greater war effort, everyone is anxious to be up and doing, and greater organisation is needed to harness the nation's full resources.

Residents from all over the Goulburn Valley attended a meeting last Tuesday night at Shepparton, where exceptional scenes of enthusiasm were displayed, and gave an emphatic direction to the Commonwealth Government to go ahead with a greater war effort.

The fire contained in some of the speeches was reminiscent of the Great War recruiting rallies, and the enthusiasm of listeners left no doubt as to where they stood in the matter.

They are impatient to be up and doing — and seeing more done for the Allied cause: and although Mr. McEwen's statement that Australia was now producing its own armored cars, machine guns, anti-aircraft guns and large quantities of ammunition, made an impression, the majority wanted a greater display. Unfortunately, military exigences demand the observance of strict secrecy, and therefore the whole story of the Government's effort cannot be disclosed.

The State President (Mrs. O. A. Hicken) at a meeting of the C.W.A. held at Shepparton last Tuesday, when 400 Goulburn Valley members were present, said in a rousing speech: "A little bit of knitting or sewing is not enough for us women in this war: we have got to give our money too, and make personal sacrifice if we would really help our Empire." Mrs. Hicken also attacked gossip mongers who spread pessimism and rumors, and further, asked branches to invest in War Savings Certificates.

CANADA'S APPLE EXPORTS REDUCED.

Now Exploiting U.S.A. Markets.

Shipping and war restrictions are hitting the Canadian Apple grower as it is the Australian grower, but fortunately the former has a potential market near at hand which may help out. A comparison of the export figures for February this year and in 1939 give an indication of how exports have dropped. In addition to a curtailment of British imports of Apples, Germany, Belgium, France and Denmark were closed to Canadian Apples even before the latest development of the war, and these figures cannot at the moment be made up.

1938/39 figures are quoted with 1939/40 in brackets, for the largest exports. Britain, barrels, 255,532 (94,257); boxes, 63,606 (196,942). Germany, barrels, 56,380 (nil); Belgium, barrels, 25,132 (nil); France 11,088 (25,948). Total all countries, 366,231 (224,597).

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Canning in Paper Bags

New Type Food Container

In the U.S.A., the canning and the wholesale grocery industries are discussing with much interest a new type of container for canned foods which is designed to replace tin and glass containers and which made its appearance within the past few months.

The new-type container, if successful, is expected to work a revolution in the canning industry. An experimental pack of fruits, vegetables and fish in these new containers has been made and placed at the disposal of all interested for inspection.

The new container is composed of three pieces—a pliofilm bag, a cardboard container, and a cellophane wrapping for the package. The fruits, vegetables, or other foods are placed in the pliofilm bag, a tough, transparent container, which is then sealed, air-tight. This bag goes inside the cardboard container, and the package is wrapped in cellophane. The cardboard container is made of a special kind of cardboard developed for the purpose, and the container has a window through which the contents of the package can be viewed.

The canning processes includthis new package are built around the regular standard canning equipment used in canning with tin or glass containers. After the package is filled by machinery and wrapped, the contents are cooked in the regular canning retorts without any injury to the package.

This is the new "paper-can," and while it is still in the experimental stage, reports indicate that the new package will be a success. It is not entirely perfected. One of the drawbacks is that the transparency of the pliofilm bag is clouded by moisture which appears when the package is put through the canning retort. But shrewd food processors who are watching this new container closely believe that these drawbacks will soon be overcome and the new container made satisfactory. —("S.A. Storekeepers' Journal.")

CANNED "SOLID" APPLES.

Possible Opening for Market.

The necessity of finding a market for part of the surplus Australian Apple production usually sold to the United Kingdom has caused the Agent-General to report on the prospects of selling "solid," or "pie" pack canned Apples in Great Britain. Inquiries made suggest that, although the present and future requirements of the market for this product are probably well provided for, there might be a limited opening for increased trade in the Australian article. Successful marketing will depend, of course, on the quality and suitability of the pack for the requirements of this particular market and also on the price. A representative of the largest English fruit and vegetable canners said that prospects are fairly good in Great Britain at present for a reliable Australian brand of "solid" pack Apples which could be offered at not more than 21/- per dozen. In view of this opinion, and of restrictions on exports of culinary Apples from Australia to the United Kingdom, the attention of canneries in Australia might be directed to the possibilities of disposing of portion of surplus supplies of culinary Apples in this manner, provided, of course, that facilities for shipment can be assured.

CANNED VEGETABLES FOR TROOPS.

Those of us who remember the difficulty of getting vegetables in any form, especially in the Egypt and Palestine areas in 1914-18, will recognise the immense strides made in the canning of vegetables since the Great War.

A recent report by Batchelor's Peas Ltd., of England, the largest canners of fruit and vegetables in Britain, states that up to the declaration of war their output had been a record. The public has long accepted the claim that canned fruit and vegetables retain their health properties and, like the Americans, are using canned foods more than ever before. The company has entered into a contract with the Government to supply canned vegetables and fruit for the military forces.

CANNED FRUIT EXPORTS.

Up to April 30, 262,846 cases of 2 doz. 30-oz. tins, or equivalent, had been exported from Australia this season. This was made up as follows: Pears, 101,271; Peaches, 91,516; Apricots, 50,544; Pineapples, 17,850, and fruit salad 1,665.

MARKETING CANNED FOODS.

Helping the Retailer.

THE WAR has temporarily changed the condition of marketing canned goods, and we must change our tactics and deal with the retailer, said C. F. Sturdy, of the American Can Company in the "Canadian Food Packer." Modern merchandising begins when the canner plans the quality of his pack and ends when the consumer cleans up his plate. As long as the can stays in the warehouse or on the retailer's shelf, your further packs are doubtful. Anything that prevents the consumer affects the canning industry.

To assist the retailer your goods must be of such quality that the consumer comes back for more, but the containers and the publicity given must be such that he makes his first purchase on appearance or claims that you make for your goods. The consumer must have confidence in your goods and in these days of competition quality is the first factor.

Advertising: The average consumer first buys your goods be-

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ARE YOU GRUBBING?

Previous experience had convinced me that to be really efficient a grubbing machine should have ample power and ropes that will meet the heavy demands required of them. I found that shovel and axe work is very costly either by itself or in conjunction with a machine. The machine that offered these features with a host of others, was THE "MONKEY" GRUBBER.

It gave me the power of 260 pairs of hands in a simple and compact form; the lever is short, so that I am able to stand firm-footed and get the full stroke. There are two speeds in the machine, as well as an automatic release that allows me to let off a strain, or as the machine will work in any position, it comes in for all jobs that would require a chain block. It is taken to the job on a pair of wheels like a barn truck, and is rigged for work in a few minutes. The ropes are in lengths that I find easy to handle, and each one is fitted with hook and loop couplings, so simple and absolutely IT for effectiveness. The makers have included a sturdy snatch block with a novel method of securing to the ropes, and also a fine type of firm gripping rope shortener. The latter makes it very easy to accommodate the lengths of rope to the tree or stump being pulled, and is quickly released from the rope. The combination of so many time and labor saving features makes the "Monkey" Grubber a superior grubbing outfit.

REMEMBER FOR YOUR GRUBBING THERE'S ONLY

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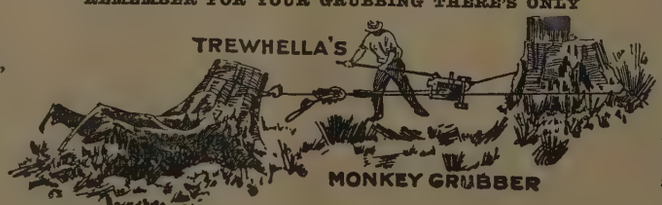

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cause they have been well advertised. Sales are built upon how you convince the buyer that your goods are the best attainable.

Labelling: Then the label must appeal to the eye, and however good the contents are, if the container is not well labelled the sales will not be made. Sell the can by the label and, if the contents are good, you have made a regular customer.

Price: The next requirement is an article that will not be too dear for the average buyer to select. But price must not be lowered at the cost of quality. Remember that turnover is more important than immediate profit in bread-and-butter lines and you've got to can in large quantities to keep the factory and the original producer busy.

Display is the retailer's job, but providing that the goods lend themselves to good display, the retailer will use them. He will appreciate help by way of showcards and well-printed advertising material to push sales of your goods. Novelty of display will help and you can assist him in many ways.

Quality must not be the last word. It must be the first and last so that both the retailer and the consumer will be glad to take your goods. The former because he can guarantee the product and the latter because he has found the quality good and comes back for more.

In substance, this was the speaker's talk and it is a sound exposition of the co-operation that must exist between the canner, the retailer and the consumer. If the original producer is to grow more fruit or vegetables for canning, the cannery factory and the seller must co-operate to get the goods into consumption in a way satisfactory to all parties. Australia is consuming more and more canned foods and will continue to do so just so long as production, manufacturing and distribution are made easy and satisfactory.

N.Z. EXPORT OF APPLES.

Stocks Reported Short.

When shipping space for export Apples from N.Z. was announced, the trade launched a campaign to increase local consumption, and so successful was the effort that when shipping space later became available it was found that not sufficient had been stored to meet export requirements.

To prevent a glut on the local market, the Government asked growers to hold off picking of the export varieties as long as possible and gave confirmation of 4d. per case for the first month and 2d. per case for each succeeding fortnight (according to the "Auckland Herald").

At last report, it was hoped that the export quotas would be met, especially as a large crop is reported from most districts and that the abnormal crop would still leave plenty of fruit for local consumption.

SPECIAL NOTICE TO FRUITGROWERS

All Members under Fidelity Bond

In response to numerous requests from growers for information as to who are members of the

Wholesale Fruit Merchants' Association of Victoria

the following list is given. All are members of the above Association, and are registered firms carrying on business in the

WHOLESALE FRUIT MARKET, MELBOURNE.

STAND NUMBERS ARE AS INDICATED IN PARENTHESES.

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SILBERT SHARP & DAVIES PTY. LTD. (17).
WATKINS FRUIT COMPANY PTY. LTD (5)
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WING YOUNG & CO. (38).
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REGAN & KENNY (Successors to Wm. Sweeney). (33).

Correspondence is invited by the Association.

Office : 21 Wholesale Fruit Market, Queen Street, Melbourne. Phone: F 4866.

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References:
Bank of New South Wales, Haymarket, Sydney.

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APPLE AND PEAR MARKETING.

A programme for the controlled marketing of Apples and Pears in Victoria was submitted by Mr. W. P. Mair to the recent annual conference of the Orchardists and Fruit Cool Stores Association of Victoria.

The plan is based on a district varietal and grade pool, controlled by a State Board which would co-operate with Boards of other States and the Federal Apple and Pear Board.

Close co-operation between the Federal Apple Board and the Victorian State Apple Board should exist for the purpose of placing Interstate fruit on the Melbourne market if it were deemed necessary to do so.

For the duration of the war and thereafter, if considered necessary, the Commonwealth Government should guarantee growers a minimum price for all varieties and grades, the full amount of the guarantee to be paid on delivery, and further payments as a result of sales when varietal pools are finalised. Victoria to be zoned into districts, each district to have its committee and district manager.

District committees to be empowered to arrange sales in the Victoria Market to accept country orders and to ship fruit Interstate. Finance to be secured from levies.

N.S.W. CHAMBER OF FRUIT AND VEGETABLE INDUSTRIES.

Valuable Assistance to Publicity Work.

The N.S.W. Chamber of Fruit and Vegetable Industries has rendered good service to the Apple and Pear publicity campaign by placing its rooms and staff at the disposal of those who are conducting this important work.

These services have been freely rendered over the past few years and constitute a valuable contribution to the industry.

Additional service has been provided in that members of the Chamber have attended regularly to the distribution of Apples to schools and in addressing scholars on the subject of Apples and health. The speakers include Messrs. L. J. Jenkins, A. C. Ward, H. Woodward and P. S. Macdermott. Younger members including Mr. Geoff. Pogson are now gaining valuable experience in this health propaganda.

The Chief Secretary, Hon. A. U. Tonking, M.L.A., opened the school distributions this season. Mr. H. McKay, Tasmanian Government Marketing Officer, is another regular speaker at school distributions.

Cable Address: DAVIS, MELBOURNE. Code: "ABC," 4th and 5th Editions. Box, G.P.O. 148B.

J. DAVIS PTY. LTD., *Fruit Merchants*

8 WHOLESALE FRUIT MARKET

Consignments solicited. One Trial Invited. Best Prices obtained. Prompt Advice and Payment.
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Telegraphic Address: "Listeria," Melbourne. Telephone: F 6341. Private: Win. 4535.

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Australia looks to you to produce and sell good fruit, but to **PRODUCE GOOD FRUIT** and have it badly sold is a reflection on your business ability. To sell well is as important as to produce well. The greatest combination that can exist beneficially is that between a painstaking fruitgrower and a painstaking salesman.
If you have good fruit to market, you will find in the firm of **GEORGE LISTER PTY. LTD.** the service you require. Established over 50 Years.

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Are now paying a Bonus of 15% on all Commissions charged to regular clients of the Fruit & Vegetable Section for year ending Sept., 1938

Send Your Consignments TO US

MELBOURNE & SYDNEY.

Australian Fruit in England

The following is an extract from report of Agent-General and Trade Commissioner for South Australia in London (Sir Charles McCann), dated April 19, 1940.

Fruit.

Arrivals of **Apples** from Australia have met a very active market and prices have been very satisfactory indeed. This applies to all United Kingdom markets.

This week Victorian Jonathans very short of color and very ordinary quality, made 18/6 per case in **Hull.** A general range in London is: Cleos. 15/9 to 18/6, Jons. 15/-, 20/-, and Dunns 16/- to 18/-, according to size. **Glasgow** has made 21/- for well colored British Columbia and South African Apples, and this price has also been made in London for British Columbian Winesaps.

There is a distinct shortage of Apples in **London** at the moment, and for anything colored, excellent prices are obtainable.

Liverpool prices show a smaller range than Glasgow or London. S. Aust. opening prices here for the s.s. "Asphalion," 15/- to 18/-, condition irregular.

Pears are not quite so high in price as Apples, excepting Glasgow, where up to 23/- was paid for Victorian Bosc; Packhams 14/- to 16/-, Josephine 15/- to 18/-, Madame Cole 15/- to 16/-, and Bosc 16/-, all Victorian packages.

The range of price in retail shops at the moment is anything from 8d. to 10d. per lb. for Apples, and the man in the street has neither the money nor the inclination to pay approximately 2½d. for an Apple. Vegetables are expensive because of the long and severe Winter: Cabbages 6d. to 8d. per lb., Tomato 10d. to 1/- per lb., Carrots 6d. per lb.

APPLE JUICE

Popular at N.Z. Exhibition.

Many thousands of glasses of Apple juice were sold to visitors at the New Zealand Exhibition, and proved that an opening exists for a development of this utilization of surplus Apples.

As reported previously, the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research has established a laboratory at Homebush, N.S.W., to undertake research work into the manufacture of fruit juices. With the experience of America as a guide, it cannot be denied that the public will consume vast quantities of fruit juice if such is made available and is of good quality and palatable.

When one notices the enormous quantities of soft drinks consumed, many of which are synthetically colored and flavored, it must be apparent that pure fruit drinks can expect still greater reception.

With the decreased export of fresh Apples from Australia on account of war conditions, it seems to be an opportunity for greater efforts on the part of manufacturers to consolidate the fruit juice industry as well as to absorb more of the surplus fruit that may not otherwise be consumed.

Canadian growers are alive to the need for disposing of some 2,500,000 barrels of Apples that cannot now be exported, and a programme of processing is being considered. In 1937, 41.65 per cent. of Canada's total Apple crop was exported to Britain, of which Nova Scotia supplied the major proportion. Some outlet for this enormous surplus must be found, and canning, drying, and fruit juices are suggested as the best means.

FLAX GROWING.

Tests With Liral Crown Linseed.

Linseed oil millers are co-operating with the N.S.W. Department of Agriculture in tests of Liral Crown Linseed for flax production in the irrigation areas, and a ton of seed is to be released to farmers. It is anticipated that between 12 and 18 per cent. of fibre will result from the use of this variety.

Experiments made by the Department last year showed that area soil will produce good crops. Punjab was found susceptible to rust in the Leeton district owing to unusual wet conditions. Abyssinian strains gave better results, but the sowing was light owing to the limited supply of seed available. It is now thought that Liral Crown will meet local conditions in the area and the tests will be watched with interest.

"BLACKOUT" HOURS FOR FLORISTS AND FRUIT SHOPS

One disability which Australians have not yet experienced is the "blackouts" observed in England and Scotland during air raids. Aberdeen florists and fruit shops have issued an attractive press advertisement in which is shown a list of opening times which buyers are asked to note for reference. These hours apply except for temporary closing following air-raid warnings.

Home Notes

TO REMOVE STAINS.

Borax Has Many Uses.

Fruit stains can be removed from the tablecloth by using borax. Cover the stain with the borax and water-paste, then pour boiling water over it and wash the cloth in the usual way. Another hint is that starched clothes will iron better if a little borax is mixed in the starch. Borax will also remove the dressing from cotton fabrics when washed for the first time. It will also clean ivory knife handles if added to warm water, and will also freshen up silver plate and jewellery.

Lemons for Health.

The value of Lemons is not generally appreciated. Lemon juice aids digestion, induces sleep, gives relief from heartburn and reduces fever from colds or chills. In fact, Lemon juice will benefit many simple health ailments and it is so easy and cheap to prepare.

If the knife is dipped in boiling water it will cut new bread without trouble.

New stockings will last longer if washed before being worn.

Soft tissue paper dipped in milk and put over the jam bottle when wet will dry like parchment and make the bottle airtight.

If new brooms are soaked in strong salt water before using them, they will last longer.

TO POLISH UP FURNITURE.

Highly polished furniture can be repolished by using a soft rag moistened with raw linseed oil. Dampen only one end of the rag with the oil and roll tightly, letting it remain for about an hour before using. Light, vigorous rubbing will then rejuvenate the furniture. A clean, dry, soft rag or chamois leather should be rubbed over to give the final polish. If you care to try French polishing, dissolve button shellac in methylated spirit to the consistency of thin treacle and rub into the furniture.

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FRUIT EXCHANGE—BRISBANE

SELECTED AGENTS FOR: Phones: Office B 6218. Residence J 3445. Established 1911.

Victoria: Harcourt Fruitgrowers' Progress Assn. Ltd.
Harcourt Fruit Supply Co. Ltd.
Victorian Central Citrus Assn. Ltd.
Tasmania: State Fruit Advisory Board.
New South Wales: Griffith Producers' Co-op. Co. Ltd.
Barlow Packing House Co-op. Soc. Ltd.

Market Notes & Prices

SYDNEY MARKET

Report to May 25, 1940, with Review of Previous Week.

Apples: Demo., Tas., 6/- to 8/- per bushel; Del. (Tas.) 6/- to 11/-, N.S.W. 5/6 to 16/-; Cleo (Tas.) 5/- to 8/-; F. Crab (Tas.) 4/- to 7/6; Geeveston Fanny (Tas) 4/- to 7/-; Granny (Tas.) 4/- to 11/-, N.S.W. 9/- to 12/-; Jon. (Tas.) 5/- to 10/-, N.S.W. 5/- to 11/-; Romes (N.S.W.) 7/- to 10/-; Tasman's Pride (Tas.) 4/- to 7/-; Scarlets (Tas.) 4/6 to 7/-.

Pears: Jose, and Glou Morceau (Tas.) 7/- to 11/- per bush.; Packham's (N.S.W.) 8/- to 16/-; W. Cole (Tas.) 8/- to 14/-, N.S.W. 8/- to 16/-; others 6/- to 10/-.

Note: Prices quoted are minimum values for good average quality fruit. Some sales higher.

General Comment: Agents report a slackness in business which is attributed to reduced buying on the part of Italian retailers. The coal shortage and the cool weather have also affected demand.

Comments on the Apple and Pear Position.

Apples: 32,218 cases of Apples and Pears are in course of delivery from Tasmania at the present time. The coal shortage has reduced the available quantity owing to vessels being tied up. In expectation of lighter supplies this week, jobbers and others purchased ahead to some extent. The N.S.W. Apple and Pear Acquisition Committee also suggested a higher minimum price for small sizes, this having a beneficial effect. **Pears:** Packham's and Winter Cole have experienced good request and minimum prices have generally improved.

Values quoted for Apples and Pears are summarised from the official prices of the N.S.W. Apple and Pear Acquisition Committee report.

Avocado: Qld, 10/- to 12/- per half bush; 25 half cases came from Queensland last week.

Bananas: N.S.W. and Qld, regulation graded, first quality fruit 6, 7, 8 and 9 inch, 18/- to 28/-, few higher, inferior lower per tropical case.

The Sydney market received 8,228 tropical cases last week, N.S.W. supplying 7,100, and Qld. 1,128. Values have continued firm with these lighter supplies, although sales have been slow.

Custard Apples: Qld., 4/- to 5/-, special higher per half bush. Queensland forwarded 1,354 half cases last week special quality fruit improving a little.

Citrus Fruits.

Grapefruit: N.S.W., local 6/- to 10/-, special Wheeney to 15/- per bush.; inland 8/- to 10/-. Qld., 8/- to 14/-.

Lemons: N.S.W., local 5/- to 8/-, special colored to 12/- per bush.; inland 7/- to 12/-; plain grade 3/- to 6/-.

Oranges: 2nd crop Valencias, N.S.W., 3/- to 5/- (very small unsaleable) per bush. Navels, N.S.W., local 5/- to 8/-, special colored 9/-, inland 8/- to 10/-, Qld. 7/- to 10/-. Siletta, N.S.W. 4/- to 6/-. Joppa, Qld. 5/- to 8/-.

Mandarins: N.S.W., Emperor 4/- to 9/-, Imperial 3/- to 6/- per half bushel. Qld., Emperor 7/- to 13/-, Scarlet 8/- to 12/-, Beauty of Glen Retreat 10/- to 14/- per bush.

Comments on the Citrus Position.

New season citrus is appearing in larger quantities each day, but a reaction has been experienced in values, particularly because of the absence of maturity and also for reasons stated in the general comment. Queensland forwarded 1,926 bushel cases last week.

Grapefruit: Average local arrivals of the Marsh type are around 6/- to 10/-, and only a few Wheeney are realising to 15/-. Inland supplies have been light.

Lemons: Values have receded a little owing to the absence of color and the indifferent quality of most of the local fruit. Special colored fruit is scarce. Only a few Queensland are coming forward.

Oranges: 2nd crop Valencias are unsaleable to most retailers, largely owing to the cheapness of Navels.

Navels, Local: Much fruit coming forward is badly skin marked. Well colored fruit of special quality count 150 is worth to 9/-, but retailers are attempting to purchase count 175 at 7/6. Most M.I.A. arrivals are Thompson's Seedling of good appearance. **Other Oranges:** The value of other types of Oranges has receded in sympathy with the price of Navels.

Mandarins: These are more plentiful from local sources, but the Queensland product, owing to its advanced color and maturity is at present preferred.

Grapes: N.S.W., Cornichon 5/- to 7/-, Ohanez 6/- to 8/-, Waltham Cross 6/- to 8/-, inferior in all types lower per half bushel. These are now much less plentiful, Cornichon comprising the chief arrivals.

Melons: N.S.W., 9/- to 10/- per tropical case.

Papaws: Qld., 8/- to 12/-, special higher, per tropical case. 236 tropical cases came from Qld. last week.

Passionfruit: N.S.W., 5/- to 12/-, special 15/- to 20/- per half bushel; Qld. 15/- to 18/-. These continue very scarce and the prospects of increased quantities appear remote.

Pineapples: Qld. 8/- to 12/-, special higher, per tropical case. Supplies again receded last week, only 2,469 tropical cases coming forward. Values in consequence improved.

Quinces: N.S.W., inland 6/- to 7/-, special 8/-, small from 5/- per bushel. Large sizes are preferred.

Tomatoes: N.S.W., green 2/- to 7/-, colored to 10/- per half bushel. Repacked, 9/- to 12/- per half bushel. Only 132 half cases came from Qld. last week, the chief supplies being from the M.I.A. with a few from other sources in this State. — L. T. Pearce, Market Representative Fruitgrowers' Federation of N.S.W.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Adelaide (3/6/40). — The following notes and prices are supplied by the S.A. Fruitgrowers' and Market Gardeners' Association Incorp.:—

Vegetables: Beans (French), 7/- to 8/- doz. lbs.; Beetroot, 1/6 doz.; Brussels Sprouts, 5/- doz. lbs.; Cabbages, 4/- to 8/- doz.; Carrots, 1/6 doz. bchs.; Cauliflowers, 8/- to 10/- doz.; Celery, 3/- doz. hds.; Leeks, 2/- doz.; Lettuces, 1/- doz.; Onions, 7/- to 8/- cwt.; Parsnips, 2/- doz. bchs.; Peas, 9/- bushel; Potatoes, 14/- cwt.; Rhubarb (Cherry), 2/- doz. lbs.; Tomatoes, 7/- to 8/- ½ case; Trombones, 4/- to 5/- cwt.; Turks Head, 5/- cwt.; Turnips, 2/- doz. bchs.; Swede, 3/- doz. bchs.; Triambles, 6/- cwt. (Cases extra.)

Fruit: Mandarins, 10/- case; Navels, 6/- case; Lemons, 7/- case; Quinces, 4/- ½ case; Grapes, Dark, 4/6 to 5/- ½ case; Bananas, 32/- to 34/- crate; Pineapples, 18/- crate; Melons (Pie), 6/- cwt.

Report: Vegetables continued in short supply on Monday's markets, particularly was this so with Cauliflowers and Cabbage. The former sold at 8/- to 10/- doz. and the latter at 8/- large, 6/- medium, and 4/- small. Peas, however, were easier at 9/- bushel, but other quotes were unchanged. Citrus fruits continued to be weak of sale, Navel Oranges being quoted at 6/- case, Mandarins at 10/- case, Lemons at 7/- case. Other prices remained unchanged.

FLORIDA AIDS GROWERS.

Cash for Immediate Needs.

Following severe losses by Florida fruit and vegetable growers owing to severe cold weather, the U.S.A. Government will provide cash for needy growers who will stipulate their losses and claim assistance. The grants must be used for putting in new crops and supervision will be given that only actual needs of growers are met. Offices will be established in various parts of the State and a minimum of red tape and delay is promised.

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FRUIT MERCHANTS — EXPORTERS — COMMISSION SALESMEN
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Poultry Notes

CHARCOAL FOR FOWLS.

Cheap and Effective.

Charcoal has long been known to the medical profession as an aid to digestion, and also as an internal disinfectant.

A little charcoal—about 2 per cent.—added to the ration has greater beneficial effect than is always visible, for the reason that its presence in the digestive tract at the right time prevents the development of trouble that would otherwise develop, and where trouble has developed it checks it. This is done mechanically. Experts have shown that it assists in destroying harmful bacteria, as well as taking care of gases, and it also checks ordinary diarrhœa.

Charcoal for poultry is not a new idea. Quite the contrary. Many practical poultrymen have used it for years, and continue to do so. Many new ones are taking it up and feeding it regularly as they come to realise the value of it. All these regular users recommend keeping a box of it before the birds at all times.

There is another thing worth noting. Chickens do not have to be educated to it. They eat it instinctively, just as they do grit or oyster shell. Even baby chicks often pick it up first thing when eating mash containing it. It has been noted that when hens are on a harmful diet, they voluntarily eat more charcoal if it is available, their instinct telling them to eat it for relief.

THE NOSE HAS IT.

Watch Out for Smells.

Of the human senses, the eyes are of the greatest benefit to the poultry breeder who soon learns to trust his eye in assessing the value of a bird or any ailment from which it may be suffering. Unfortunately, however, some poultry farmers seem to suffer from non-functioning noses, judged by the smells that sometimes emanate from intensive houses.

Such smells do not always arise from dead carcasses lying about. Sometimes they come from the neglect of ordinary sanitary conditions. Bad circulation of air can often be sensed by the use of a sensitive nose as also can the ammonia smell sometimes noticed when droppings have been allowed to accumulate.

Overcrowding, rattles in the breathing, mustiness, dirty litter, kerosene smoke in heated brooders and other indications that things are not altogether satisfactory can be discovered by the operator who is able to co-opt his nose in the business of proper management.

The Pig Pen

FOR HEALTHY PIGS.

Vitamin A for Sows.

WELL - CONSTRUCTED HOUSES, dry and sanitary will preserve the health of pigs better than drugs or disinfectants so often used to cover up dirty conditions.

In discussing sows failing to breed or giving birth to dead pigs, or farrowing weak litters—and the relation of these to faulty feeding, a writer in the "Ballarat Courier" goes on to say lack of vitamin A in the diet is particularly productive of these troubles. A deficiency of lime in the diet will also result in sows farrowing dead pigs. Lack of protein of animal origin (milk, meat) in the diet has also been found to have a marked influence on the viability of the litters.

Adequate feeding of breeding sows during gestation, particularly in respect to the supply of protein, mineral and vitamins, is therefore an insurance of good breeding health. For sows in pig the protein supplied by cereal grains is not sufficient.

Skim milk in liberal amounts or 6 or more per cent. of meat meal will serve well. In the absence of or short supply of milk a mixture of salt, 1 part, air-slaked lime 2 parts, dicaleri phosphate, 2 parts, should be fed, 3 to 4 per cent. being added to the ration. The necessary vitamin can be provided by allowing the sows a daily run out on good grass, or if they must be penned by feeding freshly cut green feed daily. Other supplements are superior lucerne or clover hay, dried whole milk, carrots, Apples, and a good quality of stock-feeding cod liver oil.

It is particularly desirable that sows and their litters run out in direct sunlight on clean soil, since the sunlight and nosing in the earth combine to protect the suckers from rickets and iron deficiency. Iron is lacking in the sow's milk after the first week, and if the supply fails through the milk or inability to nose in mineralised earth, the litter will "go back" at about the third week. They will lose their plumpness, scour, become flabby and breathing is short and "thumpy." This condition—lactational anaemia—is sometimes curable, but unnecessary, since, if liberty is not for any reason practicable, fresh earth sods may be placed in the pen.

When fast-growing pigs are continually fed a vitamin A deficient diet they may from any time before or after weaning suffer from posterior paralysis, reflected by weak or non-control of the hindquarters. The best interests of growing pigs are served by attention to their physical comfort, nutritional and mineral needs. Two quarts of skim milk per pig daily will provide mineral needs, but a fair substitute is salt, one part air-slaked lime four parts, 2½ per cent. of the mixture added to the food.

MOTOR NOTES

CHECK ON FUEL CONSUMPTION.

DO YOU KNOW what consumption your car or truck is making? Apart from economy, it is well to know if your fuel supply will get you home or not. It is most aggravating to run out of petrol miles away from a pump and it may delay your work too, or lose the sale of your products.

When testing mileage against consumption, do not rely on your memory. Make a note of the mileage showing on the speedo before the test is made. It is so easy to forget, or doubt, what the register showed upon last look, and then by noting how much petrol you had, or added, you can get a fair estimate of your consumption. If the vehicle has a trip record, set it at zero rather than rely on mental arithmetic to assess the mileage of the particular test.

WATCH THE OIL GAUGE.

In spite of the high efficiency of the modern car equipment, if the dashboard indicator shows any sign of unsatisfactory registration, the driver should seek the cause. Sometimes the oil pump or supply is not functioning as it should, especially when starting with a cold engine. If the gauge shows zero after the engine has been running normally, it suggests something wrong. If the driver is not a competent mechanic, he should seek early advice from the first service station he can find.

BRUISED TYRES.

It is estimated that probably 50 per cent. of damage to tyre fabric is caused by bruising the tyre fabric when parking at curbs or contacting with large stones. The tread may be little worn, yet carelessness in parking at curbs may cause tyre bruises and an early blow-out. Use the brake instead of the curb when pulling into an angle park.

STILL MAKING CARS.

In spite of the war, both U.S.A. and England report heavy motor sales. In 1939, England's output was 11,500 commercial vehicles and 70,000 cars for export alone. The chief markets were Australia, 27,000; N.Z., 12,000; India, 6,000; S. Africa, 5,300; Ireland, 5,200; Denmark, 4,700; Malaya, 3,400, and Sweden, 2,100. In January, in spite of a hard winter, U.S.A. produced 488,000 vehicles of all kinds. In view of the petrol restrictions causing so many private cars being laid up in England, manufacturers are concentrating on their export trade.

SAFETY IN WINTER.

Already many Winter accidents are reported. It's strange how many risks some drivers take with wet roads and poor visability. Now is the time to check over your car or truck. The windscreen wiper is one of the first simple checks. Smooth tyres that will not give good braking grip should be replaced for the wet roads and, if still fit to be retreaded or grooved, it should be done. With open cars having side curtains, the window should be made clear to give an ample view, as side views are often necessary. If you haven't changed to Winter oil, do so at once for better results from your engine.

DIRTY WINDSCREENS.

Dust on the windscreen, especially towards nightfall, will often give the driver a poor view of oncoming traffic, particularly with the too-frequent glaring headlights that he encounters, or cross shadows. In such case time is well spent in stopping and cleaning the windscreen with a clean dry rag. Too often drivers are satisfied to wipe a small section of the windscreen with the automatic wiper and leave the rest of the windscreen dirty. In the interest of your own safety, and possibly that of others, don't risk it.

WAR RAISES COST OF CARS.

Quality to be Maintained.

Since the outbreak of war, British car manufacturers have maintained production with stocks of materials on hand, but it is stated that these are nearly exhausted and that higher production cost will be inevitable. One adaptation necessary is that substitutes are being devised. but it is announced that this will not adversely effect the quality of British manufacture.

TYRE SLEEVES.

Sleeves for worn tyres should only be used as a temporary measure. If a sleeve is left in a tyre for any length of time, it will chafe the fabric—and sometimes the tube. Even when carefully placed in the tyre, there are rough edges or creases which will wear into the adjacent tyre or tube, and it is false economy to make a makeshift into a permanent fitting. Another thing about running long on a sleeve is that it makes an uneven movement in the tyre which not only wears the tyre more, but can effect a wheel wobble with the possibility of an accident.

Pruning Fruit Trees

Developments Studied

Mr. J. B. Harris, Horticultural Adviser, gives the history of the development of pruning in a recent issue of the "S.A. Journal of Agriculture," in which he traces the evolution of pruning from early days. Pre-historic man and animals unconsciously pruned the lower branches of trees and caused an increase of fruit by giving the higher branches out of reach of the animals, a chance to bear better.

Without knowing anything of the technique of pruning, early man noticed that the upper outside fruit caught the sun and thus bore more and better fruit. Thus, again unconsciously, they discovered the fundamental principle of pruning that is followed to-day.

The science of botany further discovered that trees that are opened up bear better than those in which the fruit wood is congested, and this principle is also included in modern pruning practice. Sunlight on all sides, at different periods of the day had also been found of benefit to the tree.

The open-centred or basin-shaped tree is of comparatively late development but, while suitable in colder latitudes, it was found not altogether satisfactory in warm Australian weather. Branches became sunburned on their top sides, thus restricting the free flow of sap to the upper branches.

To remedy this defect, a further step in the evolution of tree training took place with the development of the inverted cone or half-open umbrella-shaped type, which is the type commonly grown here to-day. The ideal type of tree aimed at to-day consists of a short trunk with limbs arising at approximately the same level, and radiating from the trunk at an angle of about 35 deg. to 45 deg. from the vertical. One exception to this style of training which goes to prove that there are no inexorable rules governing pruning, are citrus trees which, being evergreen, do not lend themselves to the relatively severe pruning necessary to develop the inverted cone type of tree.

Learning to Prune.

To those who are inexperienced in pruning, probably the best way to learn is to read a good textbook on the subject such as "The Pruning Book," by Geo. Quinn, which has come to be regarded as a standard on pruning in the Southern Hemisphere. After having studied a good text book, the novice will find much to puzzle him when he endeavors to apply his recently acquired knowledge, for there are no rules about pruning which are not made to be broken.

Pruning as a science and an art must combine the exact knowledge of the former with the freedom of the latter.

The study of structural botany will afford many clues to elucidate the problems of pruning, but as this is not generally acquired by those who have not had opportunity to study at an agricultural college, the best course is to learn from a pruner of proved competency.

The "Lorette" System of Pruning.

This is the title of a treatise on pruning fruit trees written by Monsieur Louis Lorette, Chief Instructor in Horticulture at Wagnouville, France, a book which has much to commend it. The system some years ago aroused a storm of criticism, but during later years has been increasingly studied and applied in Great Britain and elsewhere.

Very briefly explained, the methods succeeds largely through the development of stipulary buds and by Spring, Summer and Autumn pruning, rather than by Winter pruning. To obtain the best results in crop, Lorette argues, it is necessary to build up the trees by using stipulating eyes.

Stipulary buds are those formed at the base of the stipules or little leaves on either side of the main leaf stalk. They tend to produce weak but fruitful growth. The Lorette system appears to be an outcome of the 3-eye system of pruning, which, in addition to producing abundant wood growth, also starts a proportion of stipulary buds into growth and production.

Pruning to Prevent Diseases.

The pruning of fruit trees to assist in disease and pest control has been frequently referred from the standpoint that it facilitates spraying.

Mr. D. B. Adam of the Waite Research Institute has indicated that the gummosis fungus which has decimated the Apricot orchards of the rainfall areas, attacks the trees largely through pruning wounds at times when they are continuously wet, shortly after being freshly cut.

Bearing this in mind, an experiment embodying 296 trees is being conducted on the property of Mr. P. B. Boehm at Light's Pass, near Nuriootpa, to test the influence of three systems of pruning on the incidence of gummosis. This test may take a long time to prove but in the meantime the fruitful appearance of those trees pruned in Spring, Summer and Autumn to obviate Winter wounds and disease infection is gratifying.

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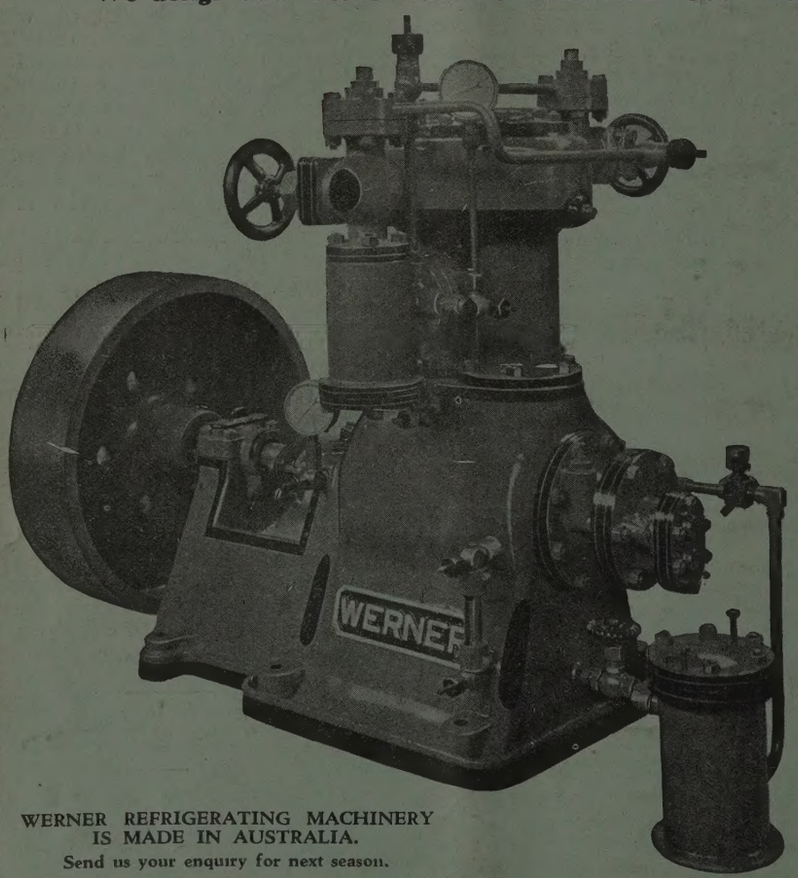

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